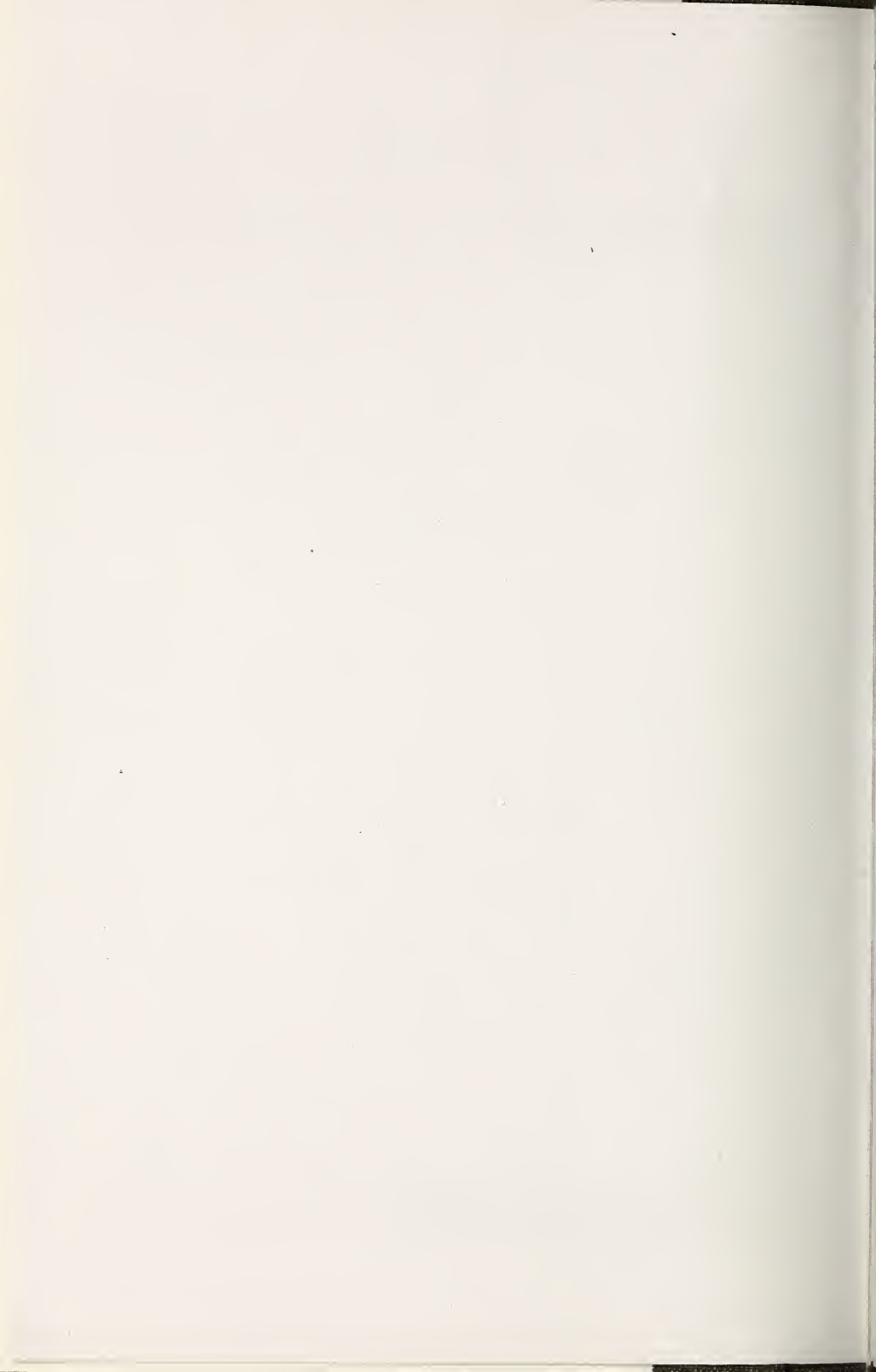


# OLIVET CHURCH

1843



Q 28709  
A620

## PREFACE

The members of Olivet wish this material could be called a history, but unfortunately we were unable to find enough facts. Much information was given by senior citizens. We thank them for this and their guidance.

In 1892, pastor M.V. Sherril had printed, A Full, Official List of Presiding Elders and Preachers who have Labored in Anson County from 1785-1892." We have used some of this information.

In 1922, Thomas Smith with the aid of W.A. Smith of Ansonville, published a book, "Smith Family Tree." We were fortunate to have access to this book which gave us a personal glimpse of early settlers near Olivet, also early members, officials of the church and servicemen of the community. We thank the Winfree family for the use of their copy of this book and for official early school records which they have in their possession.

In 1967, Reverend John A. Petty, paster at Ansonville at that time, published a booklet, "Methodism in Anson County," the material was from microfilm at Lake Junaluska. We have used some material about Olivet, written by Samuel Leard, 1844-45 pastor.

H200

Special thanks to Mrs. Beattie Price and Mr. Henry Garris of Rockingham for their information and historic pictures. Also, special thanks to O.J. Poplin.

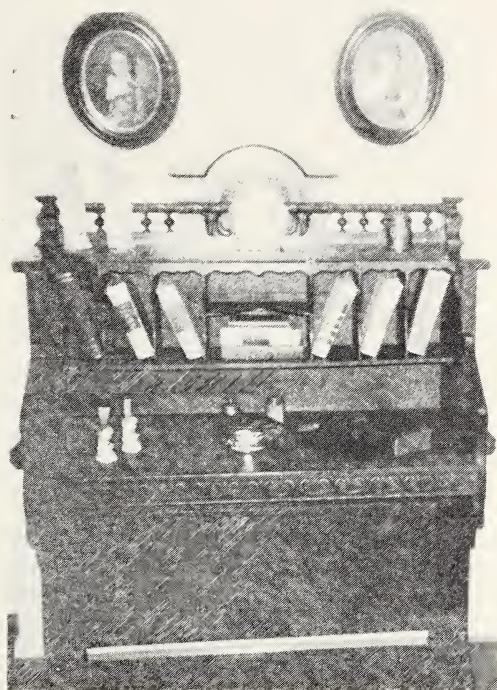
We have received permission to use the material that others have compiled.

Please forgive our mistakes, we hope someone will improve on this material at some future date.

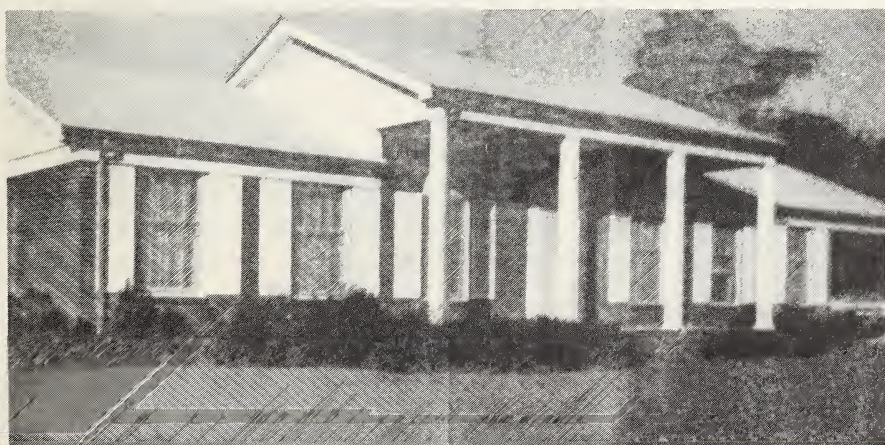
MRS. ELMER L. GOODWIN



DONNA HARTGROVE  
PASTOR



ORGAN-DESK  
1st MUSICAL INSTRUMENT



LILESVILLE METHODIST PARSONAGE

The only attempt to compile a history about Olivet Church that we have any know- was that of Mr. Booker Winfree in 1960.. His information was a statement given him by Mr.. John Kirby, Olivet member, official and Smith descendant..The statement reads; "Olivet Church was established before the Revolutionary War, the first church was a log house and a Masonic Hall.

Olivet Church stands in an oak grove beside the Standback-Ferry Road, overlooking a large and beautiful valley where Savannah Creek rambles toward the Pee Dee River..From the doors at Olivet one could once see for miles, to what is known as the Ridge Road leading to Savannah Church and other historical places..

The first deed was made to Olivet on March 27, 1843 by John Smith..It states; "The lot to be one acre on which the Methodist Church, to be called Olivet, is now building....one half mile north of his resident... to trustees; Joseph Smith, Gidion Winfree, Duncan Livingston, William B. McKorkle and Absalon Myres" (Mr. Myres was sheriff in 1825) The church was dedicated by the pastor, Henry H. Durrant and was joined to the Methodist Episcopal Conference, South.. (John Smith was seventy-one years old, see story in section three)

The Smith book told that Presley Nelme 1767-1841 attended Olivet. Joseph Smith, born in 1815 giving his heart to Christ

in the old Olivet Church.

Dr..Gevin Smith, born in 1822 attended Sunday School at Olivet.. William Calvin Smith, born in 1824 was a member, steward and Sunday School Superintendant at Olivet.

Mr..Henry Garris, Smith decendant, wrote that his double first cousin, Mrs. Beal Davis, daughter of Julia Helen Garris and Jessie Jordon Saunders, born in 1877 recalls hearing the "old folks" saying Olivet Church was made of logs and had an upstairs so the darkies could sit there for preaching..She attended Olivet in the early 1900's.

Mrs Fannie McGregor, born 1844 told her decendents the church was of logs and that it burned. (Our cover is an artist drawing of a two story log building.)

Mr..Thomas J..Poplin wrote letters to a friend in 1870 saying the Olivet members were using a log building for worship, where slaves had once pulled lint from cotton seed. He wrote that times were hard but they were planning to build, he wrote that in hard times people worked better together. Mr..O.G. Poplin has read the letters.

Mrs..Julia Downer, born in 1871 said she remembered walking to Olivet with an uncle when she was a very young girl, she remembered a door in a side wall.

Mr. Lonnie A..Goodwin remembered worshipping at Olivet in 1894 when he was five years old..It was a frame building and had a side door, he could not remember if it was ceiled.

In 1890, Jane Smith Lindsey deeded two acres of land to Olivet. This was forty-seven years after the first acre was deeded by her father. The trustees, B.J. Covington, Henry J. Goodwin and John Bowman.

In 1904, John Martin Sunday School Superintendent remodeled the Church, closing the north door. It was redone inside and out.

Lee Allen finished the woodwork around the alter and windows.

Before the remodeling, the floors were 4" wide boards, walls had 8" boards horizontal, a door at the north side, where women entered and sat on the right side of the aisle. The men entered the east door and sat on left side of the aisle. A wood burning heater was almost in the center of the Church. There were kerosene lamps with reflectors on the walls, which were used until the 1940's when electricity came to rural Anson. The organ was placed at the right front corner of the alter. One bench facing the congregation for the men and one facing the alter for the women in the choir. Wood shingles were on the roof, and the foundation were large brown square rocks about two foot high which remained until 1956 when a brick foundation was laid, stoop and steps were laid.

(Lindsey Family gave organ and the bible)

Jarrett Winfree said he remembered

hauling lumber from the Charles Winfree place.

In 1912, he took the lumber to Lilesville to be planed and grooved to ceil the Church as it is now. He said the lumber kept sliding off the wagon when the wheels hit mud holes in the road.

About 1949, when electricity came to rural Anson, an educational building was built by members of the Church under the guidance of Mr. John Kirby, architect. He gave most of the lumber and helped plaster the walls, he was already blind at that time. Mr. Henry T. Garris gave the nails for the building. The building is located approximately fifty feet north of the Church, and is used for many occasions. It has one large room with a stage at one end with a small room on either side used for Sunday School classes. The large room is used for UMW meetings, suppers, social events and the Home Demonstration Club meets there occasionally. At Christmas the young people give a Christmas play, presently directed by Mrs. Mack Goodwin, there is a beautiful decorated tree and gifts are exchanged. In the fall of 1970-71, the youth of the Church renewed the inside of the building, new ceiling lights were installed, freshly painted, woodwork redone and new curtains for the windows and stage were bought and installed. In 1972 a kitchen and bathrooms were added under the pastorate of Reverend T. A. Flyer, Jr., deceased. In 1966 gas heaters installed in the Church and a well drilled and

a electric pump installed on the grounds.

In 1960 the inside of the Church was first painted.

In 1968 a permanent picnic table was donated by W. R. Bonsal Company.

In 1969 a new piano was given to the Church by the children of Charlotte N. and Lonnie A. Goodwin, replacing 1930 upright.

In 1970 a memorial carpet fund was started, the carpet was installed on the entire sanctuary on April 4, 1971.

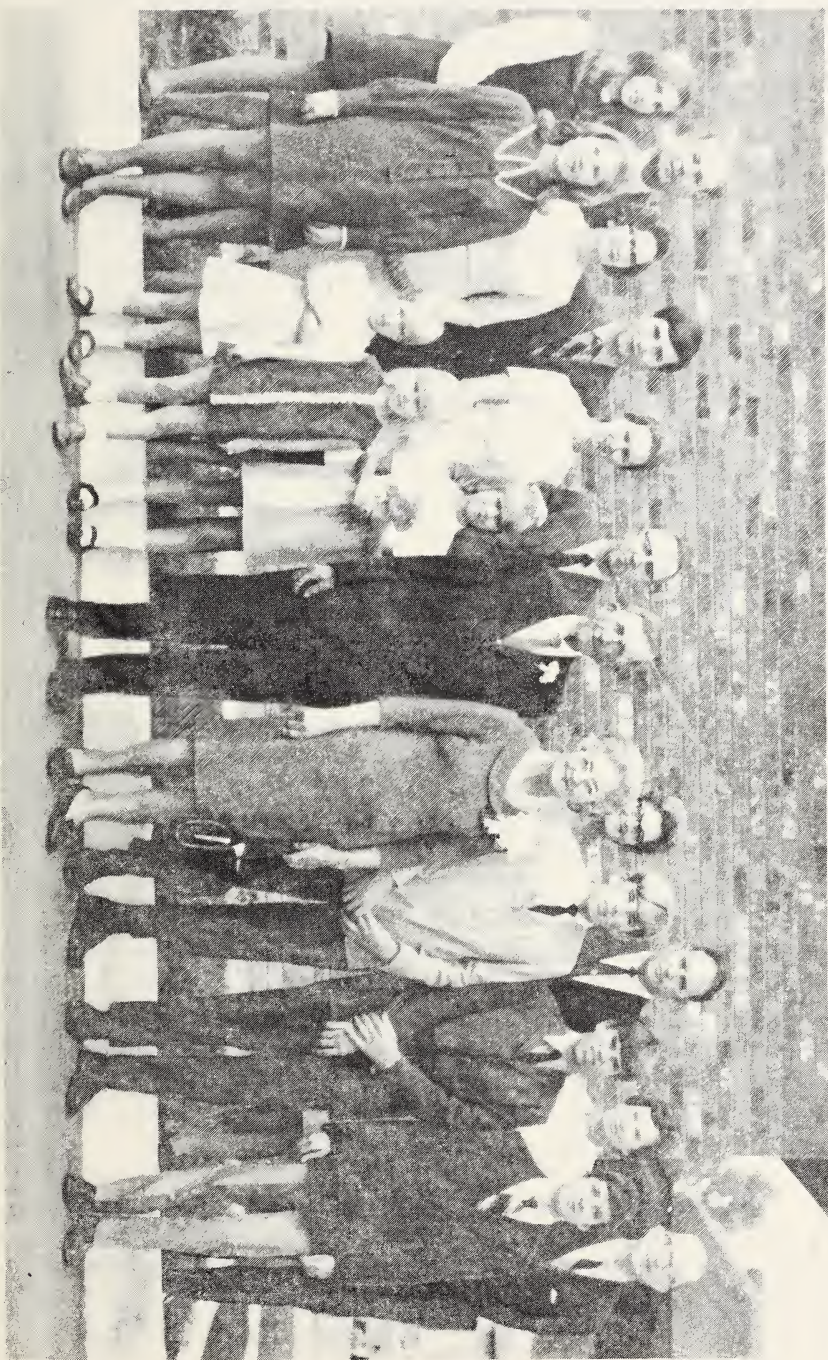
The Church was Air Conditioned in June, 1980.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL & TEACHERS

The earliest mention we could find about Sunday School was that Dr. John Guin Smith, born in 1822, went to Sunday School at Olivet at an early age.

Some of the early teachers were: Mary Frances S. McGregor, Mrs. Melvina Kirby, Maggid Bowman, Amanda Lindsey, Wincey Crump, Bertha Sinclair, Mrs. Phillip McGregor and Mr. John Kirby.

Some of the later and present teachers are: Mrs. Lacy Hough, Miss Wilma Rorie, Mrs. Charlie Bunn, Mrs. Newberry Sellers, Mrs. Joe Winfree, Mrs. Grover Bailey, Mr. Henry Dennis, Mrs. Mack Goodwin, Mr. Harden Dennis, Mrs. Tony Hanna and Mr. L.A. Goodwin



MR. AND MRS. W. T. RORIE, CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND IN-LAWS

## SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

<i>William E. Winfree</i>	1861
Henry J. Goodwin	1895
John Martin	1901-1904
Will McCaskill	1911-1914
Lonnie A. Goodwin	1915
Robert W. King	1916, 1918, 1919,
	1920, 1921
Lonnie A. Goodwin	1917, 1922, 1923,
	1925, 1926
Joseph A. Goodwin	1927, 1928
Willie Clyde Simpson	1933, 1934
Miss. Junita Rorie	1942-1951
Mrs. Christine Dennis	1951-1952
Grover Bailey	1952-1953
Wilma Dennis	1953-1963
Lonnie A. Goodwin	1964-1968

## SUPERINTENDENTS OF STUDY

L. A. Goodwin, Jr.	1968-1980
--------------------	-----------

## MUSIC

Music has always played an important part in worship services. In the early years of Methodism, there were few songs books, the songs were shouted line by line by the song leader or preacher and repeated by the congregation in almost a "chant". It was not considered necessary to have a musical instrument in worship services until after the Civil War Years. It was remembered that some did not want the organ at Olivet in the early 1900's.

Around 1870, Mr. Thomas J. Poplin led the singing in one of the log buildings at Olivet, he used a "tuning fork" because there was no other musical instrument. Later Mr. Jim Poplin led the singing.

Jule Kirby played his violin accompanied by this organ.

Some of the organ players were: Mrs. Georgia McGreagor, Miss Vinnie Simpson, Willie Rorie, Wilma Rorie, Julia McGreagor, Daisy McQuage and Lina Rorie.

Some time in the 1930's Mr. Bob lindsey had the organ made into a beautiful desk.

An upright piano was purchased for the Church in the early 1930's. Some of the piano players are: Lina Rorie, Mattie Lee Price, Junita Rorie, Cletus Rorie, Carleen Rorie, Elaine Bunn, Peggy Goodwin, Carolyn Goodwin, Lela Ruth Goodwin, and Rebecca Freeman.

#### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Youth Fellowship was organized in 1947 by Mrs. Carl Dennis, wife of the pastor. The first counselors were: Miss Junita Rorie, Mrs. Grace Downer, Mr. & Mrs. Mack Goodwin, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Dennis, and Mr. & Mrs. T. Rorie, Jr.

At present the members are Dennis, Joey, Sara, Carolyn & Lela Goodwin, Steve and Talmage Rorie, Jilla and Shirley Dennis. Present counselors are Mrs. Gerrie Rorie, Mrs. Martha Goodwin, and Mr. and Mrs. Tony Hanna.

WSCS

As early as the 1800's there was a Missionary Society at Olivet. In the late 1800's Amanda Flake took part in a missionary program, and Milivina Kirby took part by setting a hen and giving the proceeds of the chicks for Missionary Aid.

Mrs. Carl Dennis organized the present Woman's Society of Christina Service in 1947. The first president was Mrs. Winnie G. Bunn. Mrs. Carolyn G. Murdock is the present President. Charter members were: Mrs. Charlotte Goodwin, Mrs. Sudie Bowman, Mrs. Mellie Hildreth, and Charleen Rorie all deceased. Other charter members are: Mrs. Winnie Bunn, Mrs. Lina Rorie, Mrs. Mildred F. Goodwin, Mrs. Mildred Sellers, Mrs. Edna Rorie, Mrs. Thelma Simpson and Miss Wilma Rorie, who has a perfect attendance record for twenty-five years. We wish to thank Mrs. Edna, Lina and Gerrie Rorie for providing transportation to make it possible for "Gold" to have this wonderful record. Past Presidents: Mrs. Bunn, Miss Junita Rorie, Mrs. Christine Dennis, Mrs. Hazel Freeman, Mrs. Gerrie Rorie, Mrs. Beverly Freeman, Miss Wilma Rorie and Mrs. Mildred Goodwin.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The name of the Society was changed in January of 1973. Mrs. Winnie Bunn is the President.

## ANNUAL EVENTS

Back in the 1800's "Campmeetings" were an annual event. In the early 1900's, "Children's Day" was annually observed, the children had learned Bible verses and songs all year and each child had an important part in the program. The children

would practice on Saturday, and on Sunday, everyone would bring lunch, have the program, eat lunch, sing, and visit with friends and relatives all day.

The custom has changed over the years, and the reunion day is called, "Homecoming", and is held the first Sunday in August.

Vacation Bible School is taught one week each summer. The following Sunday the children give a program about what they have learned.

# CHURCH MEMBERS

Mary Frances McGregor	1859
Susan C. Williams	1863
Martha D. Livingston	1867
Mary J. Swink	1873
Adeline Poplin	1874
William Swink	1875
William Smith	1875
Charles A. Winfree	1875
Mary A. Goodwin	1876
Mollie Wall Farlow	1876
Affie Rorie	1877
Mary Smith	1877
Sophronia Byrd Smith	1877
Fannie Swink	1877
Eliza M. Winfree	1877
Mary E. Smith	1884
Martha & James Smith	1885
Theatus H. Winfree	1886
Sara S. Lindsey	1887
John Eddins	1887
Sara Frances Eddins	1887
Willie S. McGregor	1888
Henry Thomas Bowman	1893
Charles Eddins	1893
Mary Margaret Bowman	1893
John Frank Bowman	1884
Emma Bowman	1902
Etta Addie Bowman	1903
<b>T.T.</b> , Amanda Flake	1903
Robert Lindsey	1903
Etta Winfree	1905
Sallie Covington	1916
W. Booker Winfree	1919
William Allen	1894
Rufus Allen	1894
James Allen	1894
Julia Allen	1909
Tommie Allen	1909
Robert Allen	1909

Joe W. Allen	1909
Mrs. C.B. (Billy) Allen	1971
Louise Crepps Adams	
Frank Adams	1893
Robert Aycock	1893
Samuel Almond	1909
Sherwood Bailey	1889
A.L. Bailey	1889
F.R. Bailey	1909
Fannie Bailey	1908
Grover Bailey	1933
Irene Bailey	1933
Henry Bowman	1893
Thomas Bowman	1893
Mary Bowman	1893
Margaret Bowman	1893
John Bowman	1894
Frank Bowman	1894
Emma B. (Allen)	1902
Etta Bowman	1903
Addie Bowman	1903
John Bowman	1876
Mary A. Bowman	1876
George Bowman	1889
Willie C. Bowman	1891
Rebecca Lily Bowman	1894
King (Charles) Bowman	1946
Ruby Hildreth Burns	1954
Winnie Goodwin Bunn	1925
Marjorie Elaine Bunn	1954
Charles B. Bunn	1954
Barry Bunn	
Bonnie Carpenter	1962
Beverly Carpenter	1962
Sallie Covington	1916
Hazel Dare Freeman	1968
Richard Freeman	1966
Donald Scott Freeman	1960
James Lee Freeman	1947
Hazel S. Freeman	1942



REV. ED DAVIS AND WIFE JULIE, Lilesville Methodist Parsonage



WINNIE GOODWIN BUNN  
First W.S.C.S. President



REBECCA  
FREEMAN  
Pianist

Annie Covington	
B. B. Covington	1908
Virginia Covington	1908
Alice M. Coxe	1871
John J. Colson, Jr.	1889
Octavia Colson	1889
Caroline Cherry	1919
James Cherry	1919
Daniel Cherry	1919
Amanda Currie	1893
Jimmy F. Currie	1893
Anna B. Currie	1894
Nell Crepps	1918
Josie G. Crepps	1913
Mary A. Crump	
Lovena Crump	1884
Lena Crump	1885
Eliza Crump	1887
Everette Dennis	
Hardin R. Dennis	1947
Christine H. Dennis	1951
Richard Harrison Dennis	1960
Benny Allen Dennis	1960
Lindberg Allen Dennis	1949
Pearl Rorie Dennis	1918
Wilma Dennis	1947
Henry A. Dennis	1957
Sybil Dennis	1957
Audrey Dennis	1961
Julian Mayard Dennis	1958
Joyce Dennis	1958
Jill Ozella Dennis	1967
Ruby Downer Winfree	
John Eddins	1887
Sara Frances Eddins	1887
Charlie P. Eddins	1887
Harvey Lindwood Eddins	1951
Eugene Freeman	1949

Beverly G. Freeman	1959
Charles Freeman	1954
James Lee Freeman, Jr.	1970
Mary A. Goodwin	1876
Henry J. Goodwin	1882
James M. Goodwin	1886
Eliza Goodwin	1890
Joseph A. Goodwin	1886
Susan Goodwin	1886
Nancy Ida Goodwin	1889
John C. Goodwin	1893
May Goodwin	1893
Edgar Goodwin	1893
Feroni Goodwin	1909
Annie Goodwin (Story)	1908
Minnie Goodwin	
James Goodwin	
John R. Goodwin	
Lonnie A. Goodwin	1911
Lizzie Goodwin	
Charlotte Goodwin	1911
Thelma Goodwin Simpson	1920
Dorethey Mae Goodwin Thompson	1921
Annie E. Goodwin	1921
Earl Goodwin	1921
Sharpe Goodwin	1927
Salley Frances Goodwin	1928
Ruby Starnes Goodwin Smith	1932
Lonnie A. Goodwin, Jr.	1947
Linda Lou Goodwin	1958
Brenda Sue Goodwin	1960
Elmer Lemar Goodwin	1951
Emma G. Goodwin	1951
Roy A. Goodwin	1954
Lonnie L. Goodwin	1958
Cora A. Goodwin	1960
Emily A. Goodwin	1954
Harold A. Goodwin	1949
June W. Goodwin	1963
John Goodwin	1933
Mildred Goodwin	1948
John R. Goodwin	
Mack Goodwin	1947

Martha D. Goodwin	
Lela Frances Goodwin	
Wilma Carolyn Goodwin	1960
Pearl Elizabeth Goodwin	1960
Minnie Goodwin	
Robert Goodwin	1934
Dennis Mack Goodwin	1967
Lela Ruth Goodwin	1967
Steven Earl Goodwin	1968
Donald Goodwin	1970
Joseph Mayard Goodwin	1970
Mildred Gaddy	1947
Jasper E. Graham	1893
William B. Hildreth	1946
Elsie L. Hildreth	1954
William Thomas Hildreth	1960
Susan Christian Hildreth	1960
Sandra Lee Hildreth	1967
Kenneth Robert Hildreth	1967
Charles Hildreth	1949
George Hildreth	
Edward S. Hough	1889
Lacy Hough	1931
Rachel W. Hough	
Mary L. Story High	
Robert V. King	1916
Thomas King	1916
J. D. Kirby	1925
John Kirby	1933
Helen Kirby	1933
Edith Jarrell	1954
Larry Allen Jarrell	1954
Hugh E. Livingston	1885
Flora A. Livingston	1884
William Hugh Livingston	1889
George Livingston	1894
Ada Lee Livingston	1894
Nellia Livingston	1894
F. A. Livingston	
Ella Livingston	
Ed. A. Livingston	
Salley A. Livingston	1898

Benjamin Livingston	1909
Hugh A. Livingston	
William Henry Livingston	
Robert Livingston	
Robert Lindsey	1903
Virginia Lindsey	1903
Thomas J. Lindsey	1883
Amanda Lindsey	1883
Eugenia Lindsey	1883
Soloman Luther	
Mrs. J. D. McGreagor	
Mrs. Melvin Nance	1954
Rosemary Rorie Moore	1932
Claude Moore	1951
Margaret Ricketts Mauldin	
Mollie Sue Nance	1960
Edward Nance	1960
Melvin J. Nance Jr.	1960
Jane E. Nance	1960
Joyce Nance	1961
W.T. Newton	1913
Susan Newton Tarlton	1927
Henry Consly Newton (Connie)	1913
Julia Mae Tarlton	1927
Adeline Poplin	1874
Annie E. Newton Thompson	1919
Mary I. Swink	1875
Fannie Swink	1877
Herman Swink	1913
Vernon Swink	1913
William Swink	1875
Mary E. Swink	1884
Martha I. Swink	1889
James I. Swink	1889
George F. Swink	1893
John I. Swink	1893
Mary E. Swink	1893
W. Frances Swink	1893
Joseph Swink	1893
Nancy Swink	1898
Perlie Swink	1898
Carrie Swink	1913
Thelma G. Simpson	1920
Donald Simpson	1947
W. Clyde Simpson	1932

Mollie Sellers	1954
Everette Sellers	1946
Paul Sellers	1946
Newberry Sellers	1949
Mildred G. Sellers	1939
Judy C. Sellers	1958
Frances G. Sellers	1960
Linda Sellers	1931
Charlie Starnes	1931
Mary Ross Starnes	1939
William Smith	1875
Sophronia Smith	1877
Mary Smith	1877
Fannie Smith	1877
Martha Smith	1885
James I. Smith	1885
Monte Story	
Mary E. Smith	1884
Mary Lee Story	1920
Francis R. Story	1934
Lucy Story	1925
Joe Story	?
Sarah Story	1925
Carl Rorie	1934
Lina B. Rorie	1934
Carl Rorie, Jr.	1937
Willie Talmage Rorie	1967
Steven Marcus Rorie	1967
Carleen Rorie	1947
Jerry Rorie	1954
Judith Ann Rorie	1954
Willie T. Rorie, Sr.	1919
Edna Gaddy Rorie	1919
W. T. Rorie, Jr.	1943
Mrs. W. T. Rorie, Jr.	1954
Ramon Rorie	1918
Wilma Rorie	1918
Pearl Rorie (Dennis)	1918
Affie Rorie	1877
Charles A. Winfree	1875
Eliza M. Winfree	1777
Thetas Winfree	1886



MR. AND MRS. RICHARD DENNIS AND FAMILY

W. B. Winfree	1919
Etta Winfree	1905
Charles David Winfree	1967
Paul Allen Winfree	1967
Ruby Downer Winfree	
Susan C. Williams	1863
Johnsie Ann Williams	1921
Hamp Williams	1921
Mrs. Hamp Williams	
John R. Williams	
James (Jim) Williams	1921
Jessie Williams	1921
Rachel Williams	1921

# MINSTERS OF OLIVET

1843	Henry H. Durrnat, John Tarrant
1844	Samuel Leard, John M. Bradley
*1845	Samuel Leard, William Barringer
1846	Theophilus Huggins, Joseph Galluchat
1847	Charles S. Walker, Aron G. Stacy
1848	Joseph H. Wheeler, John T. Wrightman
1849	Joheph H. Wheeler, John A. Mood
1850	Tracy R. Walsh, D. D. Byers
1851	Charles S. Walker, William E. Boone
1852	Charles S. Walker, Jno W. Miller
1853	Jno H. Zimmerman, Willaim Hutto
1854	Jno W.J. Harrie, Alex L. Smith
1855	Sidi H. Brown, Eugene W. Thompson
1856	Sidi H. Brown, Andrew J. Evans
1857	Marcus A. McKibben, Jessie S. Nelson
1858	Marcus A. McKibben, R. Randolph Pegues
1859	Lewis M. Little, Jno B. Massebean
1860	Simpson Jones, Gerad W. Dupree
1861	Simpson Jones, John Hutchinson
1862	Basil G. Jones
1863	Basil G. Jones, L. A. Johnson
1864	Jno W. Puett, Thomas A. Boone
1865	Jno W. Puett, Thomas A. Boone
1866	E. W. Thompson, John C. Hartsell, H. C. Parsons
1867	E. W. Thompson, Wesley L. Pegues
1868	E. W. Thompson, Wesley L. Pegues
1869	E. W. Thompson, William T. McCellion
1870	R. R. Pegues, Squire M. Davis, F. M. Kennedy
1871	M. V. Sherrill, T. W. McCellion
1872	Robert M. Brown
*1873	M. V. Sherrill, R. T. Leard (6 months) W. H. Watkins
1874	Jessie H. Guinn, Lilesville Johathan Sanford
1875	Max H. Hoyle
1876	Thomas P. England

\*(HISTORIANS)

1877 Clarendon M. Pepper  
 1878 Clarendon M. Pepper  
 1879 T. W. Guthrie, C. M. Pepper  
 1880 T. W. Guthrie  
 1881 O. J. Brent, T. W. Guthrie  
 1882 O. J. Brent  
 1883 Brent died Sept. 10, Frank San-  
       ford-supplied  
 1884 Peter L. Herman  
 1885-1888 G. W. Hardison  
 1889 T. W. Guthrie  
 1890 Zadok Paris  
 1892(Nov)1895 B.A. York  
 1896-1897 J. C. Postelle  
 1898-1899 D. F. Carver  
 1900-1903 S. S. Gasque  
 1904-1907 A. E. Wiley  
 1908-1909 E. J. Poe  
 1910 C. H. Clyde  
 1911-1912 John W. Ingle  
 1913-1914 T. C. Jordon  
 1915 J. A. Sharpe  
 1916 Jackson  
 1917-1918 J. P. Hornbuckle  
 1919-1922 W. S. Cherry  
 1922-1923 D. F. Carver  
 1924-1925 T. B. Honeycutt  
 1926 T. J. Huggins  
 1927 F. R. Nalls, Jr.  
 1928-1929 F. W. Cook  
 1930-1931 R. H. Kennington  
 1932-1934 C. D. Brown  
 1935-1936 L. P. Barnette  
 1937 Norman A. Huffman  
 1938-1941 H. R. Cornelius  
 1942-1944 M. A. Lewis  
 1945-1948 Carl W. Dennis  
 1949-1950 J. J. Sheppard  
 1951 F. R. Davis  
 1953-1954 Alvin A. Wilson  
 1954-1956 Kenneth W. Horne

1957-1963	Robin Hurley
1964-1967	T. Guthrie Highfill
1967-1972	T. A. Plyer, Jr.
1972-1976	William R. Doser
1976-1979	Ed. Davis
1979-	Donna Hartgrove

## SERVICEMEN-WORLD WAR I VETERANS

Willie Talmage Rorie, Sr., (Julian Kirby and Willie Clyde Simpson) deceased

William Luther, who died in service at Greensboro, S. C. was the first Anson County man to die in service in the war.

## WORLD WAR II DEATHS

James Wortham Bunn, Born 1917, died at Luxenburg, April, 1945, sone of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey B. Bunn.

Robert T. Hildreth, born 1924, died at Italy, June, 1944, son of William D. and Mellie Hildreth

Clyde Freeman, born 1927, died on a ship in 1947, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Freeman

Arthur McQuage died in service in World War II, son of Mr. and Mrs. George McQuage.

## WORLD WAR II AND LATER VETERANS

Carrol Allen, Richard Allen, Cary B. Allen, Jr., Henry Dennis, Harding Dennis, Julian Dennis, Walter Downer, James Downer, Charles Freeman, Jim Freeman, Howard Freeman, James L. Freeman, David Freeman, Charles Downer, Edward Freeman, L. A. Goodwin, Jr., Mack Goodwin, John Goodwin, Harold Goodwin, Roy A. Goodwin, Robert Goodwin, Lonnie L. Goodwin, William B. Hildreth, Charles Hildreth, Melvin Nance Jr., W. T. Rorie, Jr., Carl Rorie, Jr., Prembroke Powell, Paul Sellers, Newberry Sellers, Everette Sellers, Donald Simpson, Robert Simpson, Jasper Streater, Frances Story, Joe Winfree, Lester Williams, Harley Williams, and Scott Freeman, and Ben Dennis.

Richard Freeman was in the Peace Corps.  
Edward Nance was in the National Guards.

## PRESLEY NELMS

Presley Nelms was born in 1767 and died in 1841. (May 5, 1841) We found in the Smith Family History that he was married to Ann Montgomery Ingram, daughter of Joseph (Redhead) Ingram. Their home was on Cedar Creek near the Nelms-Smith-Winfree graves yard. Presley was 18 years old when Beverly Allen brought Methodism to Anson County. His parents lived at Ansonville. He was a generous member of Olivet Methodist Church, South, which he marked by planting a hedge of cedar around it and kept it trimmed as long as he lived.

Presley and Ann raised a family of four children. Their only daughter (Eliza Sydnor) married William G. Smith, son of Olivet's Benefactor, John Smith.

## HENRY LEDBETTER

Henry Ledbetter was one of the first Methodist preachers in Anson County. He was born in 1769, and was converted at the age of thirteen, under the preaching of Beverly Allen, who brought Methodism to Anson from Salisbury, North Carolina which entered at Ansonville traveling parallel with the Pee Dee River and crossing at Grassey Island near the first court house site. Henry Ledbetter started preaching at the age of nineteen (1787). He is mentioned only twice in the list of ministers on the conference, once in 1787 and in 1794.

Samuel Leard, pastor on Conference for 1844 and 1845 wrote in his reports

to the Conference, of Henry Ledbetter preaching in brush arbors, tents, and etc. Henry was a circuit rider and helped with "Camp Meetings" as late as 1849. He retired and died in 1853. He is buried at Wadesboro in Eastview Cemetery, near Brent Street gate.

#### SAMUEL LEARD'S REPORT ON EARLY METHODISM

Since many have never attended a "Camp Meeting," it is interesting to read Samuel Lear's reports about them and more about Henry Ledbetter.

In 1802, a camp meeting was held about six miles south-east of Wadesboro. This is the description of two local preachers who attended the meeting, and they were Rev. Elijah Cason and Lewis Gainey. The people came on their own and brought their wallets, bags, and pockets well stored with provisions. They came with their wagons, carts, and on horseback, and a great many came on foot, with their provisions on their shoulders. There were three tents, one of poles and two of rails. The other places of shelter were booths made of bushes. Brother William West presided. The preachers were: Thomas John Hill, William Lanier, A. Knight, P. May, and Henry Ledbetter, Methodist . . . John Culpepper, J. Lewis, and Byrd, Baptist. There were two stands about one-hundred-fifty yards apart. The two denominations labored together and were friendly. They preached, exhorted and prayed as with the Holy Ghost sent down from above the power of the Lord took hold of the people.

The ground was literally covered with the slain of the Lord. There was a single display of the power of God under the preaching of the vnderable Father Ledbetter. He was in his prime and his voice filled the forest. His text was, "They made light of it, and went their way." This was the commencement of the series of meetings held annually ever since, which have been instrumental in the regeneration of hundreds of souls."

A Phenomenon called the dancing excersises and jerks affected persons attending the camp meetings. It was regarded in that day as the results of the "Holy Ghost" influencing the body through the medium of the soul. Persons of unquestioned piety were affected by this phenomenon as well as others. The jerks were more violent than the dancing excersises. In the words of Mr. Leard's reporters. ". . . it would seize with violence on the feet and limbs and the Saint Vitus Dance might stand by and look on with admiration, under such circumstances the earth received a sound thrashing and vegetations signed and expired for several feet around."

Leard's reports continues . . . The great revival tremors were first felt at Clivet Church soon after it was organized in 1843. The Methodist appointed a revival meeting to begin early in the year in the neighborhood of John Smith, Esq.

This meeting was marked by a wonderful display of awakening and converting grace of God. Many were the persons who at that meeting felt a change of heart by the power of the Holy Ghøast. This was but the

commencement of a great and glorious revival, which extended around the circuit. Protracted and camp meetings were held in various points of the circuit with the same results. Many who thought religion before only as something suitable for an old age or a sick bed, were awakened to the living reality of a salvation which is necessary, present, and full. At Olivet, Wadesboro, Concord, Gilboa, Harmony, Lebenon, and various other points of the circuit, the sacred flame seemed to have spread with almost irresistible power. Many were added to the church.

In October, 1845, there was a camp meeting about twelve miles west of Wadesboro. Not a single traveling preacher from any circuit, save our own, and but a few local brethren beside our own. It was a meeting where we met to work and trust God for results.

Among our local preachers was Henry Ledbetter, representative of two generations, his feeble voice, streaming locks of silvery white, and tottering steps showed plainly that time had dealt hard with him. His presence, as well as his preaching contributed to the interests of our meeting. I could not look on him without feeling the deepest veneration for the man, who for half a century had weathered the storm of life and patiently endured the cross of Christ.

We met in the open air, having logs arranged for seats and a temporary stand for the preachers. What a temple was that! The canopy of heaven for our vaulted roof, lighted with glorious sun by day, and richly decorated with stars by night.

The interest which urged the friends to open the ground at so short a notice, argued favorably for the success of the meeting. Some of them, having labored nights and days to make their arrangements they now seemed to possess the strong confidence that God would bless them. They were not disappointed, for from the very beginning, there was a marked influence of the Spirit among the preachers and people. The interest continued to increase gradually until the Sabbath, when like a pen-up river, it bore down all opposition and spread over the whole encampment. The eleven o'clock service was conducted by our good brother, A. B. Smith, who on that occasion made one of the happiest of all, his happy efforts. It was the blessing of God upon the sermon which made it so efficient. The congregation was immense, the attention of the majority fixed, the tears could be seen coming down cheeks. Unused to such a loving hearts of steel were melted, and Christian hearts glowed with loving fire, bursting forth into loud hallelulas.

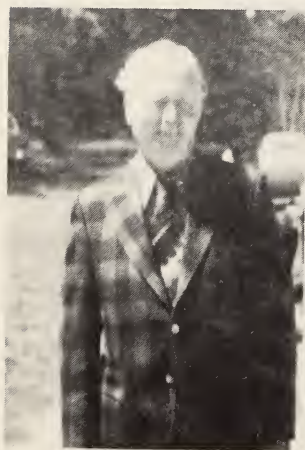
The junior preacher (William Barringer) was appointed to conclude the service. He took the hymn book, rose in the stand, but utter a word he could not. Down he sat, overcome almost prostrate with the gush of strong emotions. But what need of exhortation? God was preaching by this Spirit, and there was a willing, listening audience. The door of the church for the admission of members was opened, and the first person who met the preacher was one who for two years had been on the fence. Sincere in his scruples, he did not have them removed until that day. Others passed forward, the altar was crowded with penitents, and the most pleas-



THOMAS J. POPLIN  
First Music Leader (Tuning Fork)



Lina Brower Rorie  
Organist & Pianist



GROVER BAILEY  
Sunday School Superintendent



REV. & MRS. WILLIAM B. DOSER

ing feature was that very many were happily converted. From the close of the eight o'clock service in the morning until the close of the candlelight service, the alter was never cleared. Singing, prayer, and shouting might be heard in many tents. Young men who went to the alter to mock, found themselves prostrate on the earth crying for mercy. I saw some of the oldest sinners in Anson holding on to small trees for support or sitting in deep thought upon our primitive benches. They were like melted wax. It was indeed a scene such as angels might delight to gaze upon.

After Reverend Ledbetter's death, Rev. A. B. Smith became a prominent preacher. He was probably the most learned local preacher in Anson County, during the first half of the 19th century. Samuel Leard, writing in 1845, referred to him as follows: Mr. Smith is best known for his part in the great "Controversy in Anson." In the early 1840's he published a booklet entitled, "Modes of Baptism," which first came under attack by the Baptist in Anson and later by the editor of the Biblical Recorder, Rev. Thomas Meredith. The first verbal blows were exchanged at Cedar Creek Baptist Church, later at Olivet and finally on the front pages of the Biblical Recorder and the Southern Christian Advocate.

### JOHN W. KIRBY

John Kirby was a son of Melviva Colson and William Kirby. He was born in 1887. His great-grandparents were Mary Gathings and James Smith.

He started his education at Horne's School House and then to Pee Dee Institute, at Wadesboro. He took Drafting and Blue-

printing by mail order courses.

He was in the army from 1909, until 1911, and was in the first group of men to live in Schofield Barracks in the Hawaiian Islands. He married Helen Hough. He had a Barber Shop at Wadesboro and later worked with Ben Tyson in Lilesville. He farmed in 1913 and 1914, then started working as a civil engineer. Some of the buildings he help erect are Elon College, State School for the Blind, Raleigh County Home at Pittsboro, and Barracks at Samacand Manor. In 1931, his eyesight began to fail. He and Mrs. Kirby came back to their log home they had built soon after they were married. Mr. John had cut the logs himself on his father's homeplace near Dumas Ferry.

Mr. John taught himself to read Braille, often reading and listening to records late at night, while Mrs. Kirby watched television. After his blindness, he was still a hard worker. He wired his own woodwork shop and he and "Miss Helen" made chairs, benches, and stools to sell. He used electric saws and drills, and together made a good business for themselves, using leather strips for the bottoms of the chairs, etc.

He was an active member of Olivet Church, a Sunday School Teacher, and other official offices. He died in 1968, at 81 years of age.

I REMEMBER MAMA  
BEATTIE FLAKE PRICE

My mother, the former Amanda Carrol  
Lindsey and my father, Thomas Jorden

Flake were members of Olivet Church, I presume my great-grandfather, Thomas J. Poplin and his wife, the former Judith Wilertha Murry and her mother, Jane Murry were members. Also, my grandmother, the former Wincey Ann Poplin who married James Lindsey and her two brothers, John Alexander and James Hampton Poplin were also members.

Mama said he uncle Jim Poplin used to lead the singing at Olivet and Miss Wincey Crump was one of her Sunday School teachers, she gave mama a book, "Roberson Curuso," as a reward for attendance or memory work. She cherished it as long as she lived.

Mama said Reverend Gasque performed the wedding ceremony when her and daddy got married at her home, near Olivet Church. The home was decorated with Apple blossoms.

Mama said before the days of public school, classes were held at Olivet Church. I do not remember mama naming any teacher, but she told lots of funny incidents that happened there.

Miss Georgia McMurray (Mrs. John D. McGreagor) was one of the school teachers.

Mama used to tell how Mr. Jackie King loved to sing "I'm Bound For The Promised Land." She said that Misses Shelley and Corrinne Horne used to wear dresses of pure silk to church and rustle could be heard as they walked up the aisle.

Mama said her father, James Lindsey attended services regularly at Olivet and had reputation of asking everyone at church to go home with him for dinner, and

said lots of people accepted the invitation. Very often 18 or 20 people accepted and ate dinner with them on Sunday.

### GIDION BOOKER WINFREE

Gidion B. Winfree was born in 1783, and was one of the trustees at Olivet Church when the first deed was made in 1843. He was married to Sara Frances Covington. Gidion was born in Virginia and moved to Anson in 1796. He settled on a farm near his father's farm on the "Plank Road," leading from Salisbury, North Carolina to Cheraw, South Carolina. He was a farmer, part-time preacher and educator. The public school system of Anson was not established until 1838, but the State Superintendent of Public Instructions revealed that since 1791, there have been schools and other institutions available to at least a portion of the youth of Anson.

About 1854 Gidion, affectionally called "Old Booker" came into the school system, the larger boys, in fair weather, studied under the trees, in the shade of the building or in the sunshine. The girls and small boys remained under the masters eye. He deeded an acre of land to Anson Co. Committee number fourteen in 1844 and built a schoolhouse called "Providence" school, which was one of the places he taught school, he was sixty-one years old. (The school was located near the present Moven Freight Terminal)

He was buried in Smith-Nelme Cemetery.

MARY FRANCES AND JOHN W. MCGREGOR

Mary Frances (Fannie) Smith was born March 9, 1844, and married John William McGreagor, which was born on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1841. Mary was the oldest daughter of Col. William C. "Gunia Bill" Smith and Ann Tilman Smith. She was educated in neighboring schools before the Civil War. She attended Greensboro Female College. During the war, because the college school was closed, she was tutored by her mother. She was skilled in domestic arts and accomplishments. The close of the war left her poor in purse, but rich in the heart and womanly graces, and willingness to get from life the best circumstances would allow. She was Communion Steward for Olivet Church and an assistant Sunday School Superintendant and Sunday School teacher.

Capt. John William McGregor, of Anson County, won the heart of this kind, courteous and gracious maiden and they were married in 1868. No wedding tour to Niagara Falls for them. Their sensible wedding tour was from her father's elegant home to the fine old mansion of her grandfather, James, which was a distance of 300 yards South, here they raised a family.



MR. AND MRS. MACK GOODWIN, CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND IN-LAWS

FAMILIES OF OLIVET

## 1900 FAMILIES

The 1700's and 1800's was the Smith Era near Olivet Church, and now we come to the 1900's. Most of the Smiths and their children are gone, but new families have replaced them. These families have loved and supported Olivet Church for amny years. Most of the 1975 members know Olivet Church only as it is now, since the remodeling was done as far back as 1904. Earlier families were Allens, Luthers, Abraham, Ballew, Colson, Nelme, Winfree, Bowman, Goodwin, McCaskill, Livingston and Kirby, etc.

### ALLEN

The Allens came to the Olivet Community from England. The parents of the present Allens were Cary Bennett Allen. He was born in August 1876 and was married to Emma Bowman, whose relatives, came from England also. She was born December 1, 1885, and was a Olivet member. Emma and Cary had four children which were: Richard Paul, John Carrol, Cary B., Jr., and Ruth Allen Pickett. Mr. Allen died in 1960 and Mrs. Allen died in 1964. All of the boys were in Military Service.

### BAILEY

James Bailey and wife Nezzie Goodwin lived in the Olivet Community, near the Church. Their children were: Grover, Carl, Wilson, deceased, Alice, Harold, Elbert, Beauford and Doris. Grover Bailey is still active at Olivet, he was Sunday School Superintendent 1952-52. He is married to Irene Williams. All their children are married.

## BOWMAN

Mr. John Bowman, was born in 1839 and came to the Olivet community from England. He was married to Mary Addie Roberson, she was born in 1848. John was an Olivet trustee in the 1890 deed from Jane Lindsey. John and Mary had 11 children, they were: Addie, Henry, Mary, Margaret, Thomas, Frank, George, John, Etta, Emma. (All are deceased. In 1893 Henry, Mary Margaret and Thomas all joined Olivet Church. In 1894 Frank and John joined, and Emma joined in 1902.

Thomas Roberson Bowman, born in 1877, was married to Mary Sue King, born in 1883 and lived in Forest City, North Carolina. She was a charter member of the former W.S.C.S. Thomas died in 1935 and Mary in 1970, both Olivet members. Thomas and Mary King Bowman's two children are: Mary Virginia, born in 1922 and married Gilbert Chester Dean. The second child of Thomas And Mary King Bowman was Charles King Bowman, born in 1923 and is married to Frances Taylor.

Miss Alice King and Mrs. Fannie King Byrd also lived near and attended Olivet Church.

## BUNN

Mr. Harvey B. Bunn and wife, Mary Baker, lived in the Olivet community for several years, their children are: (1) Charlie born in 1913, married to Winnie Goodwin, Olivet Sunday School teacher. Their children are: Barry, born in 1936, married to Rachel Waddell, Elaine born in 1943 is married to Richard Johnson.

(2) Hubert, born in 1915. (3) Worthman, born in 1918, died in World War II. (4) Joe Frank, born in 1918. (5) Harvey B. Jr. (Tootie) born in 1932.

#### COLSON

Col. John J. Colson and his wife Melviviva were the paternal grandparents of John, Julian, Mary, Sara and Melviva Kirviva Kirby. They owned a large plantation near Dumas Ferry, they had a post-office and tobacco factory on the Plantation. Their children were: Melviva, John Jr., Julian DeBerry and Oliver Kirby Colson.

#### COVINGTON

Mr. B.F. Covington and his wife Virginia, lived in the Olivet community and attended Olivet Church. He owned one of the early sawmills and helped with the needs of the Church, a trustee, they were always willing to extend a helping hand to the needy.

#### DENNIS

Harrison Richard Dennis was born December 16, 1899 and moved to Anson County from Troy in Montgomery County in 1915. He married Pearl Estelle Rorie who was born on October 19, 1898. They were married on April 19, 1922 and have been married fifty-one years. Their children are:

(1) Henry Alonzo Dennis born in 1923 and is married to Sybil Lowe of Lowgap, North Carolina. Their children are: Audrey, Jeanette, Claude and Shirley. H.A. was a Sunday School teacher for a number of years.

(2) Harding Richard Dennis was born in

1924 and is married to Christine Morrison. Their children are : Richard (Ricky), Ben, Jilla and Cherrie.

(3) Julian Maynard was born in 1926 and is married to Joyce Thomas of Burnsville. He has been a Sunday School teacher at Olivet. Their children are Cathy and Julia(deceased).

(4) Martha Caroline was born in 1927 and is married to Mack Goodwin. She is a Sunday School teacher and Youth Worker. Their children are in the Goodwin History.

(5) James Everette was born in 1929.

(6) William Allen Lindbergh born in 1931.

(7) Wilma Estelle was born in 1934, she was a Sunday School Superintendent at Olivet for ten years, also directed Christmas programs each year.

#### DOWNER

Walter Adams Downer and Minnie Mills Downer lived in the Savannah community until his death in 1937, the next year Minnie and their children moved into the Olivet community. The children are:

(1) Sadie Ross was born in 1923 and married Joe Sharpe Goodwin. Their children are in the Goodwin history.

(2) Charles Thomas was born in 1925.

(3) Walter Adam Jr., was born in 1927 and is married to Louise Clark. Their children are: James Mitchell, Walter Adam III,

Terrie and Cathy,(deceased)

(4) Ruby Allen was born in 1932 and is married to Joe Alexander Winfree, their children are in the Winfree history.

(5) James Davis was born in 1935.

Minnie Downer lived in the Olivet community untill 1953.

#### EDDINS

John Eddins was married to Sara Francis Goodwin, they attended Olivet in the early 1900's.. Their children were: Sara Ann, Fannie, Charlie, John Henry, Gus and Lewis. Lewis lived in the Olivet community until about 1916..

#### FREEMAN

Mr.. Lee Freeman, born in 1883 and his wife Jeannie Blake, born 1886 came to Anson County from Thomasville. Their children are Howard, Elgie(Mrs..Beacher Dennis), Ruth, Alta, James, Eugene, Edward and Carlton..

(1) James, married Mildred Goode , their children are; (a) James L. married to Beverly Goodwin, their children are; Jimmy, Michael and Janet..

(b) Charles and (c) David.

(2) Eugene married Hazel Simpson and their children are; Richard, Donald Scott, Hazel Dare, James Michael and Rebecca Mary, all attend Olivet Church.

#### FLAKE

Thomas Jorden Flake and his Wife Amanda Carrol Lindsey were Olivet members, they had two children, Beattie and J.J. Flake, they attended Olivet..



MR. AND MRS. CARL RORIE AND FAMILY

## GOODWIN

Henry J..Goodwin was one of the trustees of Olivet in 1890 when Jane Lindsey made the second deed.. He was born in South Carolina in July, 1830 and was married to AnnLiza, Boston who was born in 1828.. He was in the Civil War for the duration. He had a shoe shop at Forestville at one time..

Henry and Ann's children were; John, Willie, Ebb, Charlie, Sarah, AnnLiza and Jim, (Jim is the greatgrandfather of Bruce Goodwin (Historian) of Rockungham. Also a son Joseph Alexander. Ann Liza married J.. Wesley Williams, Jr. Lizahad eleven children, Atlas, John, Arnold, Willie, Carrie, Leroy, Annie, Leo, Sallie, William, all deceased. Blanche, lives in Polkton. AnnLiza and John W..Williams great granddaughter, Dawn Hildreth, is the typist of this history..

Joseph Alexander Goodwin was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Goodwin. He was born in 1864 and married to Elizabeth Howell, born in 1866. Joseph was a Sunday School Superintendant several times at Olivet. Joseph and Elizabeth's children were; (1) Annie, deceased, born 1887, she was an Olivet member, she was married to Alonza Story and is burried at Olivet. Their children are in the Story history.

(3) Lela, deceased, was born in 1891 and married to Jim Meachum.. She is buried at Olivet. Their children were; Elizabeth (Lizzie Beck), Myrtle Ruth and Lela Wyatt.

(4) Johnnie, deceased, was born in 1893 and married Susie Vaughn. He was a Olivet member and is buried at Olivet. their children are Annie, Dorothy, Sallie, Florence, Emma, Deceased and Robert. Johnnie was married a second time-- to Nezzie Carpenter, their children are Myrtle, Mennie, Joe Lee, Henry, Houston and Edna.

(5) Nezzie, deceased, was born in 1895 and married to James Bailey, their children are Grover, Olivet Sunday School Superintendent and teacher, Carl, Wilson, deceased Harold, Elbert, Beauford and Doris..

(6) Josie was born in 1898 and married J.D. (Doc) Creps, their children are; Louise, Margaret, deceased, Edna, J.D. Jr., and Beverly.

(7) Minnie was married to Jim Powell; their children are: Jack, Ben, Bobby, Betty, and Virginia, deceased. Jim is deceased. Minnie married a second time to Joel Long, deceased.

(8) Homer was born in 1904 and is married to Hazel Gandy, they have one son and three daughters. they live in South Carolina.

(9) Thelma was born in 1906, she was the youngest child of Joseph and Elizabeth Goodwin. She was married to Clyde Simpson, deceased, former Sunday School Superintendent at Olivet. Thelma served as secretary. Their children are in the Simpson history.

(2) Lonnie Alexander, was born in 1889 and was married to Charlotte Newton. He has been a Sunday School Superintendent several times and is presently the oldest member attending Olivet. Lonnie and Charlotte's children are;

(A) Earl, deceased, was married to Pearl Surrat, they had one child, Charlotte Etta, who is married to Robert Treadaway.

(B) Winnie, Sunday School teacher, married to Charlie Bunn, deceased. They had two children, Barry and Elaine, their families are in the Bunn history..

(C) Joe Sharpe, deceased, married to Sadie Downer. Their children are; (1) Beverly Jean, married to James L.. Freeman. Their children are in the Freeman history. (2) Mildred Ann, married David Pennell, their children are David and Darrell. (3) Walter Alexander is married to Martha Allen, they have one son, Eric. (4) Mary Ellen, married to Freddie Goodwin, they have one child, Gwen. (5) Mike, (6) Donnie, (7) Claudis Kress, married to Ann, one child Claudia.

(D) Mildred, Sunday School teacher, is married to Newberry Sellers, their children are in the Sellers history.

(E) Lonnie Alexander, Jr. (L.A.) is the present Sunday School Superintendant of Study at Olivet. He is married to Fannie Gathings, they have adopted twins, Linda Lou, two children and Brenda Sue, one child.

(F) Elmer Lemar, Olivet trustee, is married to Emma Gathings, Historian. Their children are; (1) Roy Alexander, two children, Donna and Kevin. (2) Emily Ann is married to Gregg Carpenter, their children are Cathy, Scott and Amanda. (3) Lonnie Lemar, (4) Cora Adeline, three children, Mark, Mike and Misty..

(G) Mack, married to Martha Dennis, Youth Worker and Sunday School teacher, their children are; (1) Carolyn, W.M.U. president, is married to Joey Murdock, they have one child, Heather. (2) Pearl, married to Tony Hanna, they have two children, Leslie and Alisa.

Mack, continued---

(3) Dennis, Olivet treasurer, married to Terrie Downer, (4) Joe, Married to Mitzzy Rorie, (5) Sara.

(H) John, Olivet trustee, is married to Mildred Freeman. Their children are; (1) Lela Ruth, Olivet pianist, is married to Stephen Neal, (2) Steve, Married to Teresa Dawkins, (3) Donald, married to Jodie Dawkins..

(I) Lela, married to George Anton, they have three children, Anthony, Sylvia and Marcus. — J Peggy see page 55

(K) Harold, married to June Warren, their children are Donna and Harold, Jr. They live in Florida.

Lonnie Alexander was married for the second time.. He married Alice Jarrell, they have two daughters, Teresa, one child and Nina..

#### HILDRETH

William David Hildreth, born in 1882 and his wife Mellie Hanna, born in 1887, moved to the Olivet community in 1933. Their children are; (1) William B. born in 1919 is married to Elsie Lockler, their children are; (1) William Thomas, (2) Susan, married to Ray Hunt, they have two sons, Douglas and Jeremy. (3) Sandra, married to Steve Tatro, they have one son Jason.. (4) Kenneth Robert, married to Cecile Heaton they have two children, Milica and Ashley.

(2) William and Mellie's second child is Charles, married to Ethel Tarlton,

(3) Mary, married to Jonny Gibson.

(4) Ruby, married to William Burns.

(5) George, lives in Florida.

(6) Robert, died in Service in World War II he was the first combat death in the Lilesville area.

## HORNE

Mr. Tom Horne and his family lived in the Olivet community in the early 1900's. They lived near Horne Schoolhouse and gave land for the Mt. Zion Baptist Church. His daughters, Shelly and Corrine attended Olivet Church.

## KING

Mr. R.V. King, born in 1878, came to the Olivet community about 1916, with his wife, Vonnice Fortune, born in 1882 from Forest City, N.C. He built a large house and a small store on the opposite side of the road from the James Smith graveyard. He operated the only store in the community. Mr. King was a Sunday School Superintendant at Olivet from 1921 until 1924. Their children were: Leake, Hazel, Earl, Thomas, Sarah, Von, Willie B., Dan Robert and Alice. They returned to Forest City about 1925.

## KIRBY

Mr. William Kirby and his wife, Melvina, attended Olivet Church. Mrs. Kirby was one of the early 1900 Sunday School Teachers, and a member of the Missionary Aid Service, forerunner of the present W.S.C.S. Mrs. Mrs. John Kirby is in the Nursing Home. Jule, deceased, at one time played his violin at Olivet.

## ROBERT LEE LINDSEY

1889-1968



AMANDA FLAKE  
(I Remember Mama)



REV. ROBIN HURLEY  
Pastor



LONNIE A. GOODWIN  
Sunday School Superintendent



JUANITA RORIE  
Sunday School Superintendent

Robeth Lee Lindsey, youngest child of James Alexander Lindsey and Wincy Ann Poplin Lindsey, was born January 22, 1889, in a log cabin about four miles North of Lilesville and about eight miles Northeast of Wadesboro, near Olivet Church. His paternal grandparents were Jessie S. Lindsey and Mary Flake Smith Lindsey, Samuel Smith and Margaret (Peggy) Hutchinson Smith. His maternal grandparents were Thomas J. Poplin and Judith Murry Poplin.

There were three other children in the family. He had one brother Thomas Jessie Lindsey, and two sisters, Amanda C. Lindsey Flake and Eugenia A. Lindsey McCurrie.

He began his education in a subscription school taught by Willis R. Cox in Olivet Church. He attended several other subscription schools in Olivet Church after this. He also attended public schools at Horne School House and Fall Branch Schoolhouse. In August 1904, he entered Wingate School at Wingate, N.C., where he attended school about six months each year until April 1907. Most of his education was obtained from reading newspapers, magazines, and The BIBLE.

At a protracted meeting at Olivet Church in August 1903, he joined the Church and on the first Sunday in Sept. 1903, he was baptized by the Rev. S.S. Gasque. He remained a member of Olivet Church until September 1919, at which time he had his membership moved to First Methodist Church at Wadesboro. His family gave a organ and Pulpit Bible to Olivet.

On September 10, 1910, he began work-at the Bank of Lilesville. In the spring of 1914, he stood an examination for Postmaster of Lilesville, making the highest grade 89.6, on the examination. He was appointed Postmaster in April 1914. In May 1916, he resigned as Postmaster and became assistant cashier at the Bank of Lilesville.

On December 12, 1921, he was happily married to Rosa May Hough, a daughter of William R. Hough and Maggie M. Capel Hough. They had two daughters, Helen Dare Lindsey Otterburg and Margaret Ann Lindsey Kreyer.

He served as an official of the Methodist Church from 1908 to his death. He was an active member of the First Methodist Church of Wadesboro, was a member and chairman of the board of trustees and also served as recording steward. He was guardian of the children of his late brother Thomas J. Lindsey and his wife Ellen Flake Lindsey. These children called "Uncle Bob" and Rosa's home their home until they were educated and married.

On March 7, 1968, he died in Anson County Hospital. Funeral services were held at the First Methodist Church, March 9, 1968, with burial in the family plot at East View Cemetery Wadesboro, North Carolina. The Rev. Ernest D. Page was in charge of the services. Honorary pallbearers were members of the Men's Bible Class of First Methodist Church.

#### SAM LINDSEY

Sam Lindsey, born 1854 and his wife, Sara Ann Eddins, born 1871, lived in the

Olivet community and attended Olivet Church. They had two daughters and an adopted son. Melvin Nance, now lives on their homeplace.

### THOMAS JESSE LINDSEY

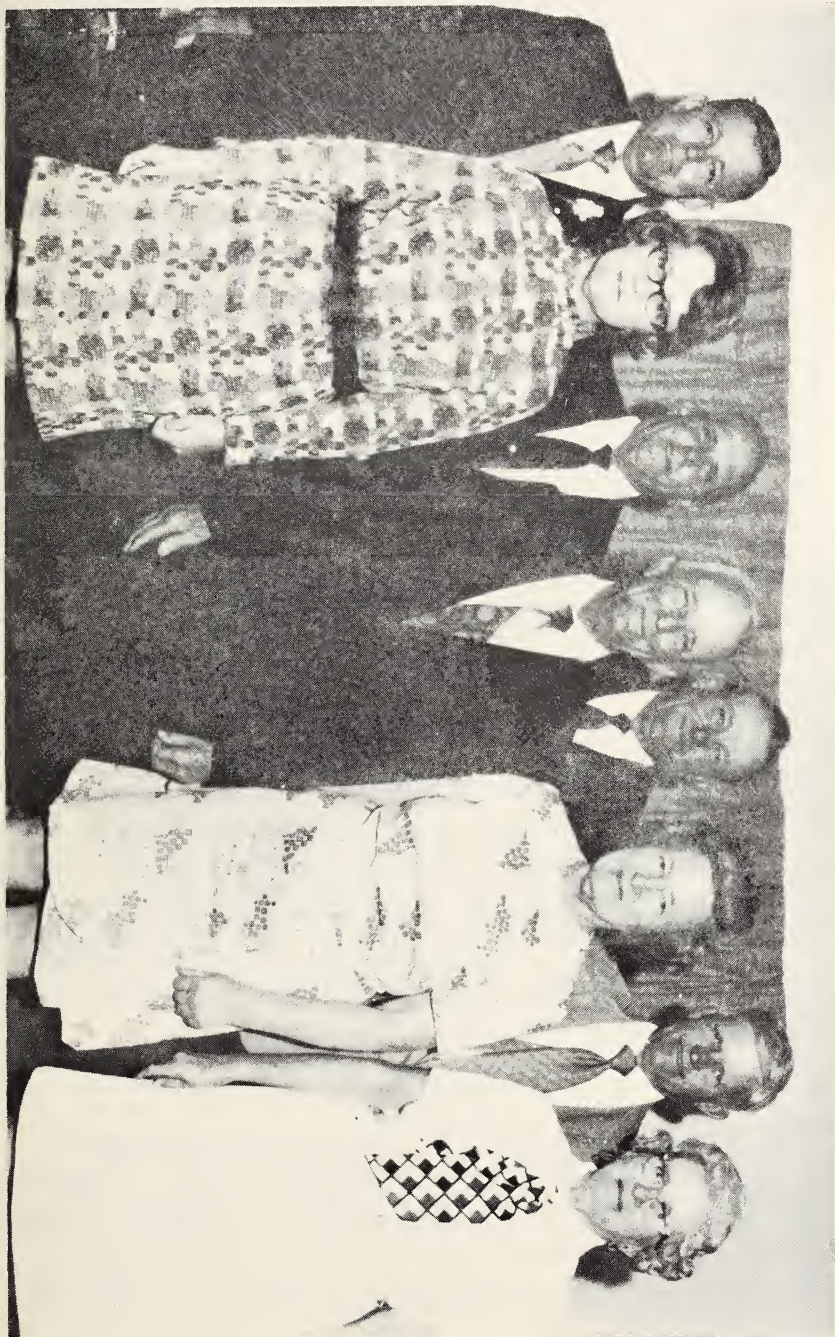
1878-1919

Thomas Jesse Lindsey, oldest child of James Alexander Lindsey and Wincy Ann Poplin Lindsey, was born October 8, 1878, and died December 13, 1919. He was married to Loretta Elmira (Ellen) Flake Lindsey in April 1907. She, a daughter of Samuel Thomas Flake and Margaret DeLaney Saunders Flake, was born August 8, 1882 and died December 15, 1918.

There were six children born to this couple. Sadie Margaret Lindsey Harris, Mary Jewell Lindsey Patito, Marion DeLaney Devlin, Virginia May Lindsey Alexander, Thomas Joseph Lindsey, who died March 20, 1924.

Thomas J. Lindsey was born in a log cabin near Olivet Church and lived his entire life at the homeplace. A frame house replaced the log cabin; and it was in this home, which he purchased along with the farm, that he lived with his wife and family and worked a good farm. He attended subscription school at Olivet and public school at Fall Branch School House. He was a member of Olivet Church.

Loretta Elmira (Ellen) Flake Lindsey was born at the Old Flake Home near Fall Branch Schoolhouse on Ridge Road near Lilesville, N.C. She attended public school at Fall Branch Schoolhouse. She was a member of Lilesville Baptist Church. During World War I, she served as a member of the Fall Branch Food Conver-



LONNIE GOODWIN FAMILY

sation Committee.

O  
T  
M Thomas Jessie Lindsey, Loretta Ellen  
Flake Lindsey, the infant daughter and  
Thomas Joseph Lindsey are all buried in  
the family plot at Olivet Church.

## LIVINGSTON

c  
I  
e The Livingston families have lived  
in the Olivet community and attended Olivet  
Church, since the early 1800's. Martha  
D. Livingston joined Olivet in 1867. She  
was the wife of Angus Livingston. The  
last Livingston family to live near Olivet  
was Doc and Ada Lee, his wife. Their  
children were: Benjamin, Bob, Lee, Jerry,  
Annie Mae, Grace, Willie, Hettie, Laurance,  
and Floyd Jackson. They moved away in  
the 1930's. Duncan Livingston was named  
as a trustee in the 1843 deed.

## LUTHER

The Luthers have lived in the Olivet  
community since the 1700's until 1924.  
Sydney Luther was married to Nancy Smith.  
Their children were: W.S. Luther, Jr.,  
and Solomon Dewey, who was born in 1899,  
and married Fay Hanna, who was born in  
1901. Their children were: James, Margaret  
Luther Faulkner, and Sara Luther Flowers.  
James and Lamer Luther's children are:  
James D. and Mary E. Luther.

## MARTIN

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Martin lived  
in the Olivet community in the early 1900's.  
He was a Sunday School Superintendant from  
1901, until 1904. Mr. Martin was a car-  
penter and remodeled the church to its pre-

sent framework. They moved to Albermarle soon after completion. Their daughter, Nannie, taught at Horne School.

### McCaskill

Will McCaskill and his family lived in the Olivet community in the early 1900's. He was a Sunday School Superintendant from 1911, until 1914. His wife and children now live in Richmond County.

### McGregor

Most of the McGregor history is with the Smith's. Mrs. Georgie (John D.) McGregor was Olivet Communion Steward for a long time, she used the same communion cloth "Mrs. Fannie" used and what Mrs. Edna Rorie used. Mr. and Mrs. McGregor had two daughters, Francis, deceased and Julia, school teacher, lives in Richmond County.

### McQuage

George and Martha McQuage lived in the Olivet community, farming, for Mr. Tom Coxe. They attended Olivet Church and their children were: Virginia Mae, Daisey Ruth, organ player, Claude, John Bennett, "Bud", Elijah, James, Dudley, and Arthur, who was killed in World War II.

### MELTON

Frank Melton, born in 1852, and his wife Sara, came to the Olivet community about 1885 from South Carolina. Their children were;

A. George B. which was born in 1880, in

O  
T  
N  
South Carolina, and married Ollit Teal. Their children were: Annie, Emma, John, Edgar, Herman, Lula, William, Pagie, Eli, Vastie, Roland, and Magor. They attended Olivet and lived near the church until the 1930's.

B. Marshall Melton, born in 1881, married Fannie Luther. Their children were: Bessie, Daisey Bell, and Sydney, deceased.

C.D., E.W., Hamp Melton and Sallie were also children of Frank and Sara Melton, also a half-brother, Bob Aycock, who attended Olivet, and is buried there.

Mr. George Melton remembered Jim Swink as a Steward and Nannie Martin and Eugenia Byrd playing the organ, he said in the early 1900's Reverend Gasque held services only once a month, and was against entertainment such as fairs, etc.

#### NANCE

Melvin Rupert Nance, born in 1919 and Mary Elizabeth Sellers Nance, born 1917 moved to the Olivet community in 1948. The members of Olivet depend on Mr. Nance for much of the church repair.

Their children are: Mollie Sue, born in 1942, and married Burnice Adams. They have one child, Kelly Maurice. (2) Jane Elizabeth born in 1945, married Edward Johnson. (3) Joyce Lee, born 1947, married Ted Johnson. They have one child, Lorie Lee. (4) Melvin Jr., born 1949, married Carroll Johnson. (5) Edward, born 1952. (6) Randy Warren, born 1958, and (7) Cynthia Angel, born 1959. They live on the

former Sam Lindsey place.

## POPLIN

Thomas J. Poplin was born in Stanley County in 1831 and came to the Olivet community about 1852, shortly after he and Judith Murray were married. He was an overseer for the Lindsey farms. He was in the Civil War, joining in October, 1861. He was captured at Roanoak Island and released about six months later in a prisoner exchange and later fought at Gettysburg. He was one of Olivet's song leaders, using a tuning fork. His son, Jim later led the singing. Thomas wrote letters to a friend in Aquadale, in 1870, stating the church was using a log house where slaves had pulled lint from cotton seed, indicating the 1843 church, John Smith had helped build was destroyed. The members were talking of building a new church. The war had just been lost and times were hard.

Thomas and Judith Murraray Poplin had three children. They were: (1) Wincey Ann Poplin which married James Alexander Lindsey. (2) James Hampton, (Jim song leader) married Mary Elizabeth Morton, and (3) John Alexander Poplin, who married Mary Ellen Moss. After the death of Judith, Thomas married Adeline Swink, who lived in the Olivet community until about 1930.

Thomas and Judith's son, John Alexander Poplin and his wife, Mary Ellen Moss had six children. (1) James Thomas, married Elizabeth Liles. (2) Sara Maude, married Clarence Morrison, (3) William Henry, mar-

C  
T  
N  
ried Mary Belle Moss, (4) Samuel Alexander, married Amanda Lewis and later Dessie Adcock, (5) Charles Wesley, married Tempie Seago, and (6) John Graham Poplin was married to Martha Louisa Webb and later to Tincy Ratliff Lowe, who still lives. John Graham was the father of seventeen children. (1) Walter Graham, married Janet Fields, (2) Rayford Alexander, (3) Rufus Benjamin, married Lucy Kelly, (4) Fred Miller, married Lois Wilkerson, (5) Printis Wail, school teacher, (6) James Everette, (7) Martha Evelyn, Pianist for Savannah Church, married Wilson Martin. (8) Mary Lou Bernice, married Benjamin Timothy Brooks, (9) Oner G., historian, (10) Charles Jackson, (11) Calvin Colidge, (12) Wade Hampton, married Coleen Broome, (13) Eva Grace, married Leo H. Lear, (16) Robert Luther married Minnie Lee Tarlton.

The members of Olivet wish to thank Oner G. for giving us information about his ancestors, and the valuable information about the church in 1870.

### RICKETTS

John Ricketts and Winnie Bell Coker Ricketts moved into the Olivet community in 1929, from Lando, S.C. They farmed for Mr. Tom Coxe for eighteen years. The family attended Olivet Church during these years.

Their children were: (1) Lela, married Willie Williams, (2) Beaulah, married Ed. Williams, (3) Allie, married E. Hough, (4) Clarence, married Rosa Hough and later Florence W. Wilson, (5) Margaret, married Alston Mauldin, (6) Katherine, married Sandy Martin, Jr. They also raised a grand-

son, Ralph, who married Willie Mae Boone. Ralph is deceased.

## RORIE

Alonzo Rorie, was born in 1858, in Anson County. His wife Martha Lily Mills was born in 1874. They were married at the Burrell Mills home in 1891. He was a farmer and a large land owner. Their children were: (1) Willie Talmage, born in 1893, married Edna Gaddy. He served in World War I. They are Olivet family. Mrs. Edna has served as Olivet's Communion Stewardess since 1930 and places flowers in the church every Sunday during the entire year. Mr. Willie has served as Sunday School Superintendant and Trustee for the Church. Their children are: (A) Junita, Sunday School Superintendant for ten years and Youth Worker. She married James Pippen of Rockingham, they have one child, Jimmy. (B) Rowena, served as Secretary and treasurer for Olivet. She married Ward Tarlton of Wadesboro, they have three children: Ward Jr., Linda, and Barbara. (C) Willie Talmage Jr., married Gerrie Fussell of Texas, she has served as Charge Secretary. They have two sons, Steve and Talmage. They are Olivet members. (D) Mary Elizabeth, married James Daniels of Charlotte, they have three children: Lisa, Ann, and Janet.

(2) John Raymond Rorie, born in 1896, deceased.

(3) Pearl Estelle, born in 1898, married Harrison Richard Dennis of Uharri. They celebrated their "Golden Wedding Anniversary" this year. (1972) Their children are in the Dennis history.

(4) Wilma Horne, (Gold), born 1902. She has served as Kindergarten teacher at Olivet for many years, she is a charter member of the WSCS and has a perfect attendance record for twenty-five years.

(5) Affie Lillie, (Pet), born 1905, married Claude Thompson, they live in Ashboro, N.C. and have ten children.

(6) Lonnie Carl, born 1906, married Lina Brower of Wadesboro on December 28, 1929. She was born January 12, 1910. They have been members of Olivet since 1932. Lina has played the organ and piano at Olivet. They have five children, including two sets of twins. They are: (A) Cletis Lee, married Hugh R. Trexler and they have three children: Gail, Robin, and Hughie Jr., they live in Wadesboro. (B) Carl Jr., twin, married Sharon Phillips, they have six children: Lonnie, Lou, Linda, Scottie, Tim, and Mary. They live in Elmwood, Nebraska. (C) Carleen, twin, deceased, was married to Wayne Martin of Wadesboro. (D) Judy, twin, married Samuel T. Deese, Jr., they live in the Gum Springs Community. (E) Jerry, twin, married Nancy Whitaker, they have one son, Keith.

All five children of Carl and Lina's were Olivet members.

(7) James David, (J.D.), born in 1909, married Lois Howell. They live in Wadesboro and have one child.

(8) Rose Mary, born 1912, married Claude Moore, they live in Wadesboro.

\*\*Alonzo's sister, Affie Laney, born 1861, was an Olivet member and is buried there.

## SELLERS

Mr. James Phillip Sellers, born 1896, in Chesterfield, S.C. and his wife Mollie Deave Clauton, born 1896, came to the Olivet community in 1937. He farmed for Mr. Tom Coxe. (Mr. Coxe was always glad to help with expenses at Olivet, when needed during the depression years). The Sellers family have been active members in Olivet Church. Their sons are Newberry, Everette, and Paul all served in the Armed Forces.

Their daughter, Mary, married Melvin Nance. Their children are in the Nance history.

Newberry married Mildred Goodwin, Sunday School teacher. Their children are: (1) Linda, which married John Barry Usery. They have two sons, Johnny and Jeffrey. (2) Judy Catherine, which is a school teacher, and married Donald Horne of Polkton, they have two children. (3) Francis married Jabie Burroughs. They have two sons. Newberry and Mildred have one son, James Newberry Sellers.

## SIMPSON

Willie Clyde Simpson was born in 1895. He married Thelma Goodwin which was born in 1906. Clyde served in World War I, and as a Sunday School Superintendant. Thelma served as secretary and treasurer at Olivet. Clyde's sister Vinnie, was organist at Olivet.

Clyde and Thelma's children were: (1) Donald, which married Bonnie Phillips. They have two girls, Ramona and Marsha. They live near Ethel, Missouri. (2) Hazel, married Eugene Freeman. Their children are



T. G. HIGHFILL, CONNERIE HIGHFILL on parsonage porch, Lilesville Methodist Church. Photo taken by Winnie Goodwin Bunn.



WAHOMA CHURCH AROUND 1910

in the Freeman history. (3) Robert is a Military Careerman. He is married to Bernice Melvin of Columbus, Georgia. They have one child, Stacy Elizabeth. (4) Larry, and (5) Alta Betha who lives in Missouri, has one son, Shawn.

### STORY

Mr. Alonzo Story, born in 1888, came to the Olivet community in his teens from Montgomery County. It is remembered he had a particular tree, at Olivet to which he tied his horse. The tree was cut when the community building was built in 1949. He was married to Annie Goodwin, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth H. Goodwin, and a member of Olivet, and was buried there.

Their children were: (1) Mary Lee, born 1909, married James High, (2) Joe, born 1911, married Ethel Vaughn, they live in South Carolina, (3) Lucy, born 1913, married L.L. Odom, Jr. both deceased. (4) Sara, born 1915, married Herman Anderson (deceased). (5) Francis born 1927, Martha Hough. (6) Monte, born 1919, married Wilbur Streater Sr., (7) Kenneth, deceased, buried at Olivet. (8) Katherine, born 1927, married Fred Waddell, Jr.

Alonzo and Annie have 18 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. This family once lived in the James Smith homeplace, which was later known as the McGregor place.

### SWINK

Jim Swink, Olivet Steward, and his wife lived near Olivet Church. Their children are: Wincey, Cary, and Joe Swink.

### USHER

Mr. S.T. Usher and his wife Elizabeth Thompson Usher lived near Olivet about 1916 and 1917. He was an assistant Sunday School Superintendant at Olivet.

#### WILLIAMS

Mr. Michael Williams, was married to Rachel Williams, born in 1850. Their children were: Henry, Jessie, John, Hannah, Dolphus, Michael David (Dood), and James Robert (Jim).

Jim Williams was born in 1881 and was married to Johnsie Vaughn, born in 1890. They were married on 1908. Their children were: (1) Harley, born in 1911 and married Clara Ratliff. (2) Rachel, born in 1914 and married to Lacy Hough. She was a Sunday School teacher at Olivet. Their children are: Billy, Bobby, Beverly, and Carroll. (3) Irene, born in 1917, and married to Grover Bailey, both are Olivet members. Their children are Betty and James. (4) Florence. (5) Billy Lester born 1922, (6) Ila Grace, born 1924, (7) Dewey.

#### WINFREE

The Winfree family has been active members of Olivet since the early 1800's. Gidion Booker was named as a trustee in the 1843 deed. Most of the Winfree's have moved their membership to the Wadesboro Methodist. At present one of Walter Booker's children, Joe Alexander and his family attend Olivet. Walter Booker, born in 1886, was married to Eunice Henrita Covington, and they attended Olivet for a number of years.

Joe Alexander Winfree, was born in

1927, and married to Ruby Downer. Their children are: Joey, David, Paul, and Barbara. Ruby has served as a Sunday School teacher, and president of the WSCS. This family has helped in getting the material for this history by loaning us the Smith Family Book and information about Mr. Gidion Winfree. It was Booker's dream that a history about Olivet be written. They also had valuable school records of the 1800's.

GOODWIN - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40

J - PEGGY ANN, 10TH CHILD OF LONNIE  
AND CHARLOTTE, MARRIED TO JAMES W.  
TALENT. THEY HAVE THREE CHILDREN.

1. DEBERAH, MARRIED TO SHERRIE  
LOWDER, THREE CHILDREN (A)SHERRI  
LYNN, (B) JAMES DANIEL (C)MATTHEW  
DAVID.

2. JOHN

3. AMY



MR. AND MRS. JOHN GOODWIN AND FAMILY

EARLY EDUCATION NEAR OLIVET

## EDUCATION OF OLIVET MEMBERS

Most of the small schools were one-room frame buildings. Teachers often boarded with near-by families. The pupils walked for miles along unpaved roads or paths to get to school a few weeks or months of the year, some of the pupils boarded with relatives nearer the schools. These small schools taught only elementary 1-8 grades and to get more education a young man or lady had to go to Wadesboro until Lilesville began to have a High School. Many of these pupils did not have sufficient clothing to travel in cold or wet weather.

Information from the office of the State Superintendant of Public Instructions reveals that Anson County has had schools since 1791. Wadesboro Academy was chartered in 1802. The public school system of North Carolina was established in 1838. Anson Institute was chartered in 1854. In early days of public school, many of the teachers were preachers, as evidence, Gidion Wifree was an Interant Preacher, he built his own school on his land in 1854. Some of Lilesville's early leaders in education were Reverend Jorden, Reverend J.B. Lindsey and Reverend N.B. Cobb. In 1899 there were fifty white and thirty-seven colored schools. Teachers were paid on an average of twenty-two dollars a month.

A small one-room school called Birmingham or Coose Hill, was one of the early schools near Olivet church, it was located on the present 109 highway, it is still standing and is used as a residence. The

school was officially Anson District #16. Some of the school Committee members were: Charles A. Winfree, J.S. Watkins, W.E. Birmingham, S.P. Martin, R.H. Dabbs, W.N. Bennett, John W. Williams, Jr., Charles Watkins and E.P. Melton and C.A. Covington.

From Official records which began in 1887, we found school was held twice a year for a period, from six weeks to three months, usually in July and November. The teacher in 1887 until 1889 was Cora George, she had an average of twenty-five pupils and was paid twenty-six dollars a month. In 1890 Nannie Flake began teaching there, she had an average of thirty pupils and was paid thirty dollars a month, she was still teaching in 1896, at the time the record book was completed.

The books used were: Harrington's Speller, Harvey's & Smith Grammer, Moore's and Mrs. Spencer's N.C. Histories, Norcester's Dictionary, Maurey's Georgraphy, Holmes Reader, U.S. History, Hart's Grammer, Mrs. Spencer's N.C. History, Swinton's U.S. History, McGuffey's Primer, Sanford's Arithmetic, Goodrich's U.S. History, Lee's History and in 1894 Webster's Dictionary.

This is the school Olivet's oldest member (Lonnie A. Goodwin) began his education on November 12, 1894. Families attending were: Winfree, Goodwin, Tarlton, Bailey, Williams, McQuage, Melton and Garriis.

Teacher since 1889 were Corrie & Eugenia Byrd, Ruth Winfield, Rona Caudle and Sue Pope.

Hough School, was also near Olivet church. In 1921 a brick building with four rooms was built and grades 1-8 were taught. It was rembered that the early school buses had roll-up curtains at the windows. This school was located about one mile from "Goose Hill".

Other schools near Olivet were: Horne's near the Alonzo Rorie's home, and Fall Branch School, near the Fall Branch Baptist Church. There once were two small schools near Forestville.

### FORESTVILLE SCHOOL

The first building located at the site of Forestville church was a school house built by Col. William Smith, where the church services were also held. Mr. Jim Clark remembers the sound of Hackedy's bugle at the tan yard as he drove the stage coach, drawn by four houses down the road on his route from Wadesboro to Old Hundred. The property was incorporated to prevent the sale of whisky in the vicinity of the school and church. Mr. Arch McNeil, a one armed Scotchman, taught the school and lived in a house on the lot where Mr. and Mrs. Marchal Spencer's home later stood

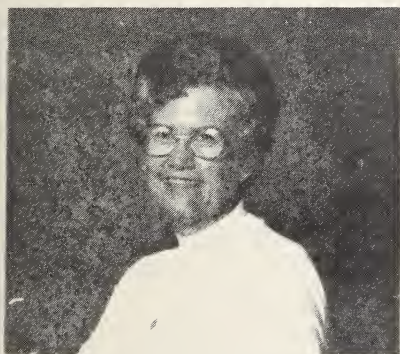
Mr. Henry Wall recalled the following scholars of this school: Henry Wall, Jim Clark, George Ingram, Nick Ingram, Ed Liles, Jim Watkins, Ben Wall, Jim Williams, Lewis Jones, Kirby Jones, Sophie Carter, Mollie Carter, Jennie Luther, Sam Luther, Press Luther, Jim Ingram, Effie Wall, Pet Wall, Ebb Goodwin, Charlie Goodwin, "Wash Moss", Anne Moss, Henry Yates, Mollie Wall (Farlow),



REV. PLYLER at Altar



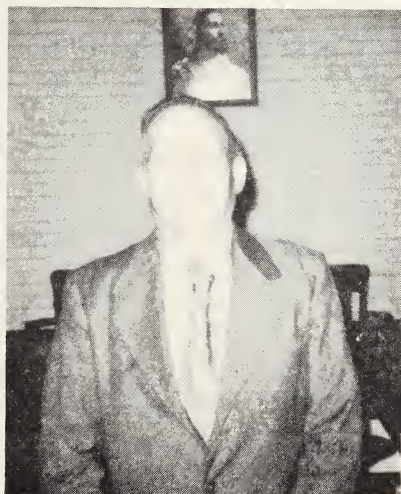
WILMA DENNIS  
Sunday School Superintendent



EMMA GOODWIN, Olivet Historian



LELA GOODWIN, Pianist



L. A. GOODWIN  
Sunday School Superintendent

Mollie Morton, Will Clark, Bob Clark, Sallie Clark, Alice Deberry, (Spencer), who boarded at her uncle William Smith's home, "Bal" Wall, Frank Spencer, Henry Spencer, Ashe Spencer (DeBerry), Martha "Mittie" Spencer, Gin Williams, Dunc Williams, Tude Williams, Mittie Williams, Mary Wall, Will Watkins.

Mr. M.V. Sherrill was twice pastor of the church while services were held in Forestville School first in 1871. He performed the Wedding ceremony for Miss Ashe Spencer and Mr. Press DeBerry.

The Forestville School building was burned. A significant fact to the scholars was that they had a few days before secured new books which were lost in the fire. Since the property was incorporated a nearby "bootlegger" was suspected of starting the blaze.

Col. William Smith was teaching at Forestville when it burned.

Forestville was the name of a post office kept by Col. William Smith in his store. He lived at the Ben Clark place on old Highway 74 and had a tan yard, a saw mill, a griss mill, a shingle mill and a big store on the opposite side of the road toward Mr. Marshall Spencer's Place. The saw mill and store were burned supposedly by an enemy of Col. Smith and the same person who burned the school house. After the fire Col. Smith and his family moved to Texas. (1856)

The crowing event of Forestville Village was a tournament on horse back.

Four post with arms on them were set up on a track between the school and the tan mill. Rings were hung on the arms and the winner was the ridder who got most rings with his lance and made the best time. Tom Diggs from Virginia won first prize. He crowned Miss Ida Smith, queen. Jennie Wall from Richmond County was maid of honor and Knights were badges. Ed Simmons was Knight of Jerico. Jim Spencer was Knight of Anson, Sam Spencer was Knight of Bluett Fall, other Knights were Jess Smith, Pete Wall, Jim Spencer, Eugene Simons, and Jim Wall. Among the guest was Miss Corina Covington known as the prettiest girl in this part of the country. Miss Ashe Spencer Deberry, Miss Mittie Spencer Leggett, Miss Rena Prigen (music teacher at Gum Springs) and others were also there. A big party, supper with decorated cakes and a dance, at Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer's followed the Tournament.

#### FORESTVILLE'S PINE SLAB SCHOOL

The next school building, weather boarded with stripped pine slabs, was known as the Pine Slab School, it was located on the Clark Mountina Road between Forestville and the Spencer place. Church services were also held here on the fourth Sunday afternoon of every month.

Mr. Pepper is the well remembered pastor of the church at this school, 1876 to 1878. When he left Mr. Adam Clark said to him, "Mr. Pepper, we hate to see you leave, but tell Conference to sent us the next hottest herb."

Some of the teachers of his school were: Col Will Smith for ten years of more, Miss Virginia McAlister, Miss Julia Tyson, Miss Lizzie Diggs of Virginia and Miss Julia Gains.

Scholars of this school remembered by Miss Bell Spencer were: Mollie Morton, Bell Spencer, Tom Spencer, Tom Wall, Mike Wall, Effie Wall (Ingram), Mary Tiddy (Liles), and William Tiddy who lived at Uncle Mial Wall's and attended school, Henry Wall, John Wall, Ben Wall, Annie Wall, Jennie Wall, John T. Wall, and Mary Wall.

Prior to the above schools Mrs. Sallie McAlister of Ellerby ran a school in her home on the Clark Mountain Road near the Spencer place. Miss Bell Spencer said every child in the community who could walk attended school.

\*\*\*\*\*

After the courthouse and jail was moved to Newtown for easier access, Wadesboro, as we call it now, became the center of interest rather than the Grassey Island area. One of Olivet's members, Joe P. Smith, owned the first brick store and lawyer Eben Nelme practiced law in town.

As we think of the early homes, we find the whole family unit shared in the tasks of the home. The making of furniture and clothing making splints for chairs and cotton baskets, soap for cleaning, cutting firewood, making clay utensils and before the cotton gin, pulling the lint from the cotton seed, these were just a few tasks

of the day. Water was brought from a shallow well or spring for the family use. A water bucket and dipper was familiar utensils. The laundries were known as wash days, the wash pot was for boiling of the clothes and wash tubs were the laundry conveniences of the day. The wash tub served a double purpose as a bath tub, mostly on Saturday night, according to tradition.

The first Anson County Post Office was at Wadesboro, in 1794, and in the early 1800's after the delivery of mail on horseback began.

One important item of publication was the ALMANAC. It provided help and advice on planting crops, doctoring the family, how to raise and care for crops, for this gave the specific times for guidance for the farmer in planting the different crops. The weather predictions were relied on for planned activities, whether planting or pleasure. The Almanac was truly an encyclopedia of knowledge. Some of our citizens still rely on information published by the Almanac.

The third courthouse was made of brick in 1820, soon after the making of brick began in Anson County. After this, homes began to improve for those who could afford to buy or have the brick made. The light of homes were candles until 1850, when kerosene was first refined. This method of lighting homes continued for some families for almost a hundred years. In our present age the poorest families have electricity for light and appliances.

As time passed, inventions of progress took on meaning to all people. First came implements needing horsepower, then water-

power when our creeks and rivers were used for corn and grist mills. Next, came the steam age, which brought us trains. The first railroad reached Wadesboro in 1874. This was an exciting time especially for adventurous youth. Many youngsters were thrilled to ride the Carolina Central from Lilesville to Wadesboro for ten cents. Many salesman, college boys and girls rode the train to schools. The tale is told of Buck Newton, town character, that he flagged down a train one day, and the conductor thought something was wrong, but discovered that nothing was wrong. The conductor asked Buck, "Why did you stop the train?" Buck answered, "To borrow a chew of tobacco." As a convenience to train travelers, Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Saunders operated a hotel at Liles-called, "Glenn Hotel". It was a very popular place from 1924 to 1927 when the road passing through Lilesville was being paved.

The subject of education has been important to parents and leaders of our community since it was settled. The beginning of our school system was "subscription schools," which were taught only three or four months, of the year. Olivet Church was once used a school place. Some of our senior citizens have taught there in subscription schools. They were Mrs. Mary Kirby Taylor and Miss Eugenia Byrd. Most of the early school houses were crude one-room or abandoned houses and teachers were sons or daughters of the community who had learned more easily, perhaps, as their mother's or father's knee as they grew up, or were fortunate to have money to go to an academy. The first text books

were said to be Webster's Speller and Primer, and Pike's Arithmetic and the Bible. There were public old field schools near Olivet Church.\* It was the custom of the elders, to yearly clear a field to take the place of one that had been farmed, worn out, washed into gullies, or abandoned. The farmers had no knowledge of terracing a field to prevent washing into gullies. Nature restored these lands in the course of years by an orderly system. They did not have commercial fertilizer at that time. First the abandoned field was protected by a cover of sedge of old field straw, of which the women made brooms. The sedge was followed by pine, called "old field" pine to distinguish it from forest pine. As the land recuperated and gained in fertility, oak, dogwood, tulip, hickory, and other native growths mingled with the pine. "Old field school houses" were generally located among the old field pine trees. The better class of parents believed in education and usually employed college graduates to teach their children and their neighbors children in these "old field" schools. From there they progressed to academies of privately endowed groups of planters and other groups of wealth. Some of the more wealthier parents had teachers live in or come to their homes to teach their children. One of Olivet's trustees had his own school, (Gideon Vinfree) and he also taught at other schools. In the early 1900's the one-room community schools were moved to town. Horne's and Fall Branch Schools were moved to Lilesville, about 1916. A brick school house was built, then a second and larger school was built about 1926, in Lilesville. As this is being written the small town schools have consolidated with larger



CARLEENE RORIE, Pianist



Elaine Bunn Johnson  
Pianist



WILMA (GOLD) RORIE  
(W.S.C.S. Perfect Attendance, 25 Years plus)



SARAH and  
T. A. PLYLER, JR.  
(Pastor)

schools and are intergrated. In recent years, Judy Sellers Horne, Carolyn Goodwin, and Lela Goodwin have become school teachers.

## SMITHS

The Smith Family book gives us a personal glimpse at the early settlers near Olivet Church. John Smith, the grandfather of John Smith, Olivet benefactor, was born in England in 1719, and sailed to America in 1735, landing in Virginia, and traveled to the part of the country that became Wake County. In 1740, the father of Olivet's benefactor was born and when a young man moved and settled on Smith's Creek about two and  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the town of Lilesville, which was chartered in 1874. John Smith, Sr. cut logs for his cabin, notched the logs, then walked for miles to the nearest neighbor for help in raising his cabin. He chirked the crevices with mud and left holes fro his rifle. At one end of his cabin he constructed a stick and mud chimney. The back of the broad fireplace was lined with rock. He married Mary Flake, daughter of Samuel Flake, one of Anson Regulators. By diligence, they squired sufficient property and as each child arrived of age to give him a start in life. Their children were: Thomas, Eli, John, Samuel, James, Jessie, and Sarah. John Smith, husband of Mary Flake, died in 1802.

## SMITH-GOFF

Thomas Smith, was the oldest child of John Smith and Mary Flake. He was born about 1768, and married Jane Goff. When a very young man he was out on his own. Many men could not write their name. Deed and other documents were then witnessed by two parties, rather than acknowledge before an officer. Trusted and res-

possible men usually were selected for witnesses, as a precaution to future need of proof as to the legality of the paper. Thomas and Jane had a son, John Auld Smith, who went west and a daughter, Naomi. Naomi Smith married James Capel, a farmer. Naomi and James had three children, one of which was named Nancy. Nancy Capel married William Byrd. Nancy and William had seven children, one of which was William Byrd, Jr., who was born in 1847. William Jr., married Roxie Livingston. They had nine children. Two of them lived near Olivet Church. Miss Eugenia, a school teacher for many years and Julia Byrd whom married William Lindsey. Julia Byrd and William Lindsey had four children, they are Helen, Charles, Florence, and Bill. William Jr., and Roxie also had a son, Charlie Byrd who is deceased, was married to Fannie King and lived in Lilesville.

#### SMITH-BALLEW

John Smith, was the second child of John and Mary Flake Smith. He was born in 1772: This is Olivet's benefactor. He married Mary Ballew who was born in 1775, and the daughter of Abraham Ballew, who was an Anson Regulator and lived near Horne Schoolhouse. John and Mary had seven children. John was an approachable and cordial man, called Jack, by his contemporaries and Uncle Jackie by the younger people. His education was limited to the common schools of the county. Merchandising, farming and running cotton and grist mills were his occupation. He was the largest stockholder in the Bank of Wadesboro. For

many years he was Justice of the Peace. He was elected and served as a member of the House of Representatives in 1825. The subject of "state aid" to railroads was before the House. Trains and railroads were unknown and untied, but John Smith believed in the future of his state and desired its material prosperity. He was favorable to any more pretending to the welfare, uplift and benefit of the state and was in favor of this measure. He had never seen a train so he was totally ignorant about their construction. Yet in his speech he became so enthusiastic, he offered of his own means, to donate one hundred-thousand rails toward it. He never lived to see the railroads come to Wadesboro.

His wife Mary, was a French origin and was small with blue eyes. She was skilled in all the domestic arts, and worked with her own hands. The cotton of which her wedding dress was also made with her hands. She twisted the lint from seed, spun the lint into thread, and wove it into cloth. She loved and did much dainty needlework.

John and Mary lived near Olivet Church all their married life. When wages were only twenty cents a day, John bought Mary a buggy costing one thousand dollars.

They were loyal members of the Methodist Church and when the Southern Methodist separated from the parent church on the question of slavery, they went with and affiliated with the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church. They gave the land, material, and aid toward the building of Olivet Church and it was joined to the

Methodist Conference in 1843. The Church was located in a beautiful grove, not far from their residence. They were generous contributors to the various needs of the church and life members of the Missionary Society. John died in 1854, and was buried in the Nelme graveyard, five miles east of Wadesboro. Many of their slaves stayed on with Mary after the dark and dreadful days of Reconstruction and shared her adversity. Many survived he husband eighteen years, living to be ninety-seven.

John and Mary Ballew Smith's first child Catherine, who married and went west.

Their second child was William Gaston born in 1802. He married Eliza Sydnor Nelme, daughter of Presley Nelme, Jr., who was the oldest Olivet member we find recorded. William spent his youth on the farm, laboring, and supertending. He was educated in "subscription school." He studied surveying, and practiced by surveying his father's land. For long years he was a member of the Methodist Epistopal Church, South. He was the builder of the Methodist Church at Ansonville, in 1852. The lumber was cut from his own forest with his sawmill, and was long leaf pine. The church had four large dormic columns, ten windows on each side, two front doors and stairs that led to a gallery and a low porch. Eliza, was an accomplished pianist, owning the first one around. Her brothers, Eben, Charles, and Joseph Nelme played the violin and William, the flute. They were in great demand for concerts. William and Eliza lived in the Presley Nelme, Sr., homeplace near Ansonville,

until they built, "The Oaks," in Ansonville when their sone William Alexander was young.

Samuel was the fifth child of John and Mary Ballew Smith. He was born in 1809 and married Jane Meachum. Early in life, he became a member of Olivet Methodist Church and was a consistant member, starting and ending his day with prayer, he was a planter by occupation, caring nothing for politics. He was slave owner, but after the war accepted conditions and in old age went to the fields near Grassey Island and did his part in the cultivation and gathering of crops. He lost not only property as a result of the re-bellin, but was a grief-stricken father of two boys, James Marshall and William Jospeh, who died on the balltefield. In 1858, they moved to Mississippi.

Jospeh Pearson Smith was the sixth child of John and Mary Ballew Smith. He was born in 1815. His education began in the "old field" log schoolhouse, then to high school at Wadesboro. He erected the first brick store in town. He married Aleff Cooper and they had a large home in Wasesboro. In his youth, his heart was changed in the Old Olivet Church. He was a steward, and was a leader in the Temperance Movement, making speeches, assisting in building Temperance Halls and organizing societies. His wisdom taught him this work must begin with the education of the children. He heard of the birth of Negro twins with joined bodies, in South Carolina. Visiting them, he purchased them and their parents. The twins grew to maturity, educated by their mistress who trained them in various kinds of needlework and

other womanly accomplishments and music. Skilled piano performers, their melodious negro voices, trained in union and with extraordinary powers of elacution, they were prepared for exibultion as the "Two-Headed Girl," Millie-Christine. They traveled every state in the union attracting crowds, remaining in some large cities weeks and months. They were once exhibit-ited in Wadesboro where Allen Furniture Store is now located. They were taken abroad to foreign countries, all through Europe, and were viewed and entertained by royal Victoria of England, and other cr crowned heads. Joseph was living in South Carolina at the time of his death in 1862.

#### SMITH-LINDSEY

Jane, was the youngest child of Mary Ballew and John Smith. This is the Jane Lindsey who deeded two acres of land to Olivet Church in 1890. She married James Barry Grove Lindsey. They had three children, two sons Charles and James, both military men in Anson County (Captains) and one daughter, Sothronia. Jane and James Lindsey lived in the house which is known now as the "Battle" house, it once had a formal garden at the rear of the house and was beautifully landscaped. When Sherman's men came through Anson, they did not miss the home. Jane and James are buried in the Lindsey-Battle graveyard across the road from the homeplace. Because of the large oak tree which covered the graveyard it was printed in Riples "Believe It Or Not."

Sothronia, was an artist we have pictures of two oil paintings she painted. Mrs.

Battle Wall had one and Mrs. George Bacon has one. Sothronia married Dr. William Horne Battle, he was a typical country doctor and once had his office in the home.

Sothronia and James had six children their school teacher lived in the home with them. The children were: Mary, Pattie, Kemp, Susan, William, Jr., and Lucy Martin who was born in 1866, and married John Thomas Wall.

Lucy Martin Battle and John Thomas Wall lived in a large home near Bluette Falls. Young people of the community loved to have house parties. The children of Lucy and John were: Martha Adelle, born in 1896 and married George W. Bacon superintendant at Bluette Falls. Martha and George's children are: George, Lucy and John. Martha operated a country store after the death of her husband.

Other children of John Thomas and Lucy were: John Thomas, Jr. deceased, was married to Elizabeth Long, deceased. (2) Battle Wall, deceased, married Bettie Webb, deceased. Their daughter Betty, responsible for our cover picture. (3) Lindsey. (4) Lucy deceased, *Stephen Graham Wall*.

#### SMITH-HICKS

Eli, the third child of John and Mary Flake Smith, was born in 1778. He was married to Sara Hicks. They had four children, one of which was Dr. John Guin Smith, he was born in 1822 and at a early age became a member of the Methodist Church, South and his name recorded in the



OLIVET MEMBERS

books of Olivet Church, he was faithful in attendance to Sunday School and other services. This is the earliest mention of Sunday School at Olivet. Eli's and Sara's home was about two miles from the first Anson County Courthouse site.

### SMITH-HUTCHINSON

Samuel, was the fourth child of John and Mary Flake Smith. He was born about 1780 and was married to Margaret Hutchinson. They were Baptist. A son of William Hutchinson Smith was killed at Gettysburg. Samuel was very large and was known as "The Sampson" of the county and would wrestle anyone. His motto was, "I pay as I go." He produced everything at home in the way of food and clothing, even tanning the leather for shoes, and only went to the store for shoes, coffee, salt, and hats.

In those days one of the customs was to have "log rolling days." When the land owner wanted to clear land for cultivation, he would cut the trees, loop off the limbs, pile the brush, and cut the trunk into ten, fifteen, or twenty foot lengths and invite his friends and neighbors into assist him in piling up the logs in heaps for burning. Log rolling was one of hard labor, but was made fun and frolic, a day of testing manhood and strength in lifting the logs to the heap. A pole called a hand spike, two or three inches in diameter and five or six feet long would be thrust under the log. A man on either side would take hold of the hand spike, lift the log, and carry it to the heap. With Sam Smith on one of the hand spikes, it required two men on the other side. During the working hours, brandy and ginger cake was served. For the noon

meal, a large meal was served and early supper for those who wanted to get home before dark. For the women, a quilting party was usually held the same day and a dance that night for all who wished to stay.

Sam and Margaret had eleven children. A daughter, Jemina, born in 1817 married Rev. Benjamin Saunders, ancestors to Mrs. Julia Downer and her descendants.

#### SMITH-GATHINGS

James, was the fifth child of John and Mary Flake Smith. He was born in 1777, and married Mary Gathings. They lived near Olivet Church in what is now known as the McGreagor place, James and Mary are buried across the road from Mr. W.T. Rorie, Sr. In 1838, they and most of their family moved to Texas. They had twelve children. Thomas Jefferson, born in 1810, and joined the Methodist Epistopal Church, South at an early age. His wife, Mary Washington Ledbetter was born in 1808 and joined the church in 1815.

Mary, James, and Mary's daughter, born in 1802, married Lemuel Kirby. Mary Smith and Lemuel Kirby had five children. One was Milton Kirby, who was in the Mexican War, and Christopher Kirby who married Mary Fort. They had three children. One of Christopher's and Mary Fort Kirby's children was William Kirby. William married Melvina Colson. William and Melvina had six children. Clara, Sara, Melvina, Julian, were violinist at Olivet. Mary was a school teacher and John was a Sunday School teacher and trustee at Olivet Church at one time.

William Calvin, son of James and Mary Gathings Smith, was born in 1824. He married Mary Tilman. He was known as "Guinea Bill" and served a term in the legislature from 1862 to 1863. He had a tanning business at New Forestville. He was a member and a steward of Olivet Church. They moved to Texas in 1876.

William Calvin and Mary Tillman Smith's daughter, Mary Frances was born in 1844. She was Communion Steward, Assistant Sunday School Superintendant, and Sunday School teacher at Olivet. Mary Frances married John William McGregor. They had four sons. They were: William, James, Phillip, and John Duncan, born in 1872, who married Georgia Steel McMurray. They had two girls. They were Julia Little and Frances Smith McGregor. Georgia played the organ at Olivet and was Communion Steward after her mother-in-law.

#### SMITH-SEAGO

Jessie was the sixth child of John and Mary Flake Smith. He was born in 1780, and was married to Mary Seago. Jessie and Mary had a daughter named Mary, who was born in 1810. She married Jerry Henry.

Mary Smith and Jerry Henry had seven children. Their son, Jessie Tolley, was wounded at Gettysburg, Bryon Bivassor Henry, was born in 1852 and married Amanda Carrol.

Bryan and Amanda Henry's daughter, Jewel was born in 1885. She married Benjamin F. Reynolds and they had one child Benjamin F. Reynolds, Jr. He still owns part of the Henry Homeplace on Smith Creek and had a small peach orchard.

NOTE: We could not include all the Smiths. We tried to include Olivet members

or some of the ancestors of people who still live near the Olivet Community.

We wish to thank the following people for their assistance when we began this booklet.

(1) MISS, LILLIE BAGGAN, for the Shady Grove Church history and valuable records of former churches etc, which M.V. Shirrill wrote.

(2) MRS. GRACE DOWNER and FANNIE PRICE, for interesting Savannah Church records.

(3) MISS ANNIE CHRISTIAN FORLOW, for Lilesville history, parsonage information and school near Lilesville.

(4) MRS. MARY WALL DOCKERY, for interest, support and information about Forrestville Church and schools near Forrestville.

(5) MR. JAMES ROBERSON, gave us the history of Wade, Church, the youngest church on the charge at one time.

(6) MRS. VERA G. RATLIFF WHITE, loaned us the Shiloh history.

(7) MR. ONER G. POPLIN, was very helpful not only about Olivet but Savannah also.

(8) MRS. W.G. BUNN, for pictures of pastors and parson.

(9) MRS. BETTIE W. DAVIDSON, for cover picture.

## THE LILESVILLE CIRCUIT

Our recordings begin in 1798, when Lilesville churches were on the Little Pee Dee and Anson Circuit with three preachers on the Circuit.

Lilesville first had its own circuit in 1874, being in the Charlotte District. Jonathan Sandford was pastor.

Since the first Anson County Court-house was near the Pee Dee River, we think it appropriate that Methodism have its beginning there also.

In the Shady Grove record book we found that Rev. M.V. Sherrill wrote the following; "The first church in this community was about half a mile from the Shady Grove Church, it was owned and used by some free people of the colored and was known as "Jesses metting house". Bishop Asbury was there in 1798. He (Asbury) says, "Saturday and Sunday, November 16 and 17, Jesses Meeting House near Webbs Ferry, my subject on Saturday was Acts 2:17,18 and on the Sabath 1 Timothy 4:12, We then rode seven miles to Isacc Jacksons."

Sherrill continued, about 1806 Tabernacle Church was built about one mile from Jesse's Meeting House near the present Carolina Central Railroad. Bishop Asbury was at Jernigan's near this place January 6, 1806. The deed for Tabernacle was dated July 6, 1804 and was made by Frances and Mary Clark to Lot Strickland, William Hamer, William Jernigan, David and Jessie Jernigan, Samuel Wilson, John

Clark and John Hailey.

About 1839 or 1840 the Campground was moved from Shiloh to Centenary, about two miles from the present Shady Grove Church and about three miles from Tabernacle church, near the Lilesville Road. About 1849 or 1850, a church was built at Centenary, and the Society moved there from Tabernacle and continued there until 1871, when under the pastorate of the Writer, the old church was sold to the colored people and the present building, which was built for a school house was bought and fitted up for a church. (M.V. Sherrill-1892)

Early Methodism began as "Societies", as evidence the Clark deed to Tabernacle Society in 1804 and William Williams to Savannah Creek Society in 1819.

"Campgrounds" were early beginnings for several churches.

In 1810 it was reported to have been one of the three most prominent places of worship and was at the southern extremity of the Rocky River Conference. (information by Samuel Leard) Tabernacle still on Circuit 1845 when Leard was pastor.

The Shiloh Campground, M.V. Sherrill wrote about, was on the waters of Jones Creek. John Pratt made a deed February 17, 1820 to trustees, Benjamin Moreman, Sr., James Streater, William Curtis, John Hinson, son for Benjamin and Dudley Diggs.

In 1845 Samuel Leard wrote, "There were scarcely any visible remains of the old church and Campground", he continued, "here was Malcom McPherson's (circuit 1828 & 29) best pulpit efforts were made at this



MR. AND MRS. NEWBERRY SELLERS AND FAMILY

campground and it had been a very flourishing Church."

Only part of the membership came to Centenary as evidence, Shilah began in the Cairo Section about this time and we have the Shiloh history.

SHADY GROVE, was a frame church, located beside the Boggan-Deberry cemetery, near the Pee Dee.

Shady Grove Families included: Adcock, Boggan, DeBerry, Clark, Cox, Curtis, Diggs, Eddins, Flowers, Meachum, Gaddy, Hudson, Hinson, Liles and Webb-Michael was a Sunday School Superintendent and layman. Shady Grove was discontinued in 1949, when Rev. Carl Dennis was pastor.

SHILOH, is a frame church located in the Cairo community between Pee Dee and Mover. The first Shiloh Church was a log building, built at the insistence of Peggy Streater, who wished to have a place of worship where the congregation could be warm and dry; which they could not do at "Brush Arbors".

The present frame church was built 1850, it had two fireplaces at one end and a pulpit at the other. In improving the Church the pulpit replaced the fireplaces and doors put where the pulpit had been at the front. A deed was made by Diram J. Pratt in 1857 to trustees; Thomas Ratliff, Joseph Flowers, John R. Dunn and Eli Diggs.

The Methodist Conference placed Shiloh on the Lilesville Circuit in 1873 and it

remained so until 1929 when Shiloh was placed on the Morven Circuit, at the request of the members. Shiloh was on the Lilesville Circuit for fifty-four years.

Shiloh Sunday School Superintendants have been; Mayor William E. Smith, Preston Smith, John Capper, Dr. Maynard, William Pratt, John Neven, W.B. Streater, John C. Streater, Lester Ratliff, J.E. Flowers, Raymond Diggs, Mrs. Elbert Diggs, Mrs. Vera G. Ratliff, O.C. Pratt and Raymond Diggs.

WAHOMA MISSION, was on the Lilesville Circuit from 1906 until 1912. The church was built on land donated by John Alexander Poplin, on the Clark's Mountain Road between Forestville and Savannah churches and about two miles west of the old courthouse site at Mt. Pleasant, near Grassey Island.

Wahoma Mission was under the leadership of Mr. Charles W. Poplin. It was in the spring of 1906, when Will McCaskill had his sawmill at Snapps Ford on Smith's Creek, on lands of Miss Flora Spencer that Jim Clark and Wash Moss hauled the framing and slabs to build the Mission. The building was framed with rough framing, the siding used for weather boarding was from slabs, after the bark had been removed by drawing knives and other hand tools and nailed horizontally. Labor was donated by the residents of the community. Kerosene wall lamps, with reflectors were used for lights.

The preachers were: Mr. C.H. Clyde (1910), E.J. Poe (1908-1909) of the Methodist, also Mr. George Clemmer preached there, he was

converted under the ministry of Mr. Clyde. Patrick Seago of the Missionary Baptist. In 1919, Matt Ridenhour, laymember, held a revival. It was at this Mission that our friend, Mr. Henry Furman Garriss was converted.

Wahoma discontinued after 1912, the year Bluett's Falls reservoir was created and most of the families had to move out of the lower lands because of chills and fevers. The river was a very important place to the early settlers.

A Mr. Lowe, an ancestor of the Poplin and Moss family married a Cherokee Indian girl named Wahoma. It was from the love and respect for Wahoma, that the Mission, received it's name.

Families attending Wahoma were: McDuffie, Moss, Poplin, Clark, Capel, Sinclair, Lowe, Meachum, Downer, Birmingham, Helam, Morrison, Hough and Eddins.

Methodist Circuit Pastors: W.A. Wily for 1907-1907.

Mr. Henry Furman Garriss, who research this material attended Wahoma. This is only part of his article which was printed in the county paper.

WADE CHURCH, was organized in 1927 by Reverend L.H. Griffen, pastor of the New Hope Bethel Charge. Services were first held in the old Wademill School house. In 1933 Reverend C. D. Brown organized a Sunday School. It was 1942 when the members first started raising funds for a church building. In 1946 a

lot was secured and construction began in 1949. In august, 1949 the first services was held in the church basement. In 1950 the church was completed and Bishop Harrell dedicated Wade Church on Sept. 12, 1954.

Members of the building committee were: Mr. James Roberson, Rev. Kenneth A. Horne, E.M. Smith, Mrs. C.T. Roberson, Mrs. W. M. Clay and C.D. Lee.

A parsonage was begun in 1957 and dedicated in 1965. Rev. Larry Wilkerson was the first pastor to live in the parsonage.

Wade Church was joined to the Lilesville Charge in 1927, and became an independant church in 1965, remaining on the Lilesville Charge for thirty-eight years.

None of the previous churches are on the Lilesville charge at present (1980)

Savannah, began as Savannah Creek Society, as evidence by a deed William Williams made in 1819. The land was near the MT. Pleasant Court House site on the bank of Savannah Creek. Benjamin Rogers accepted the land for the Methodist and was selected as the acting trustee for the building, finishing, and keeping in repair, the new Savannah Creek Meetinghouse. Savannah had joined the Methodist Conference, thirty-four years prior ot this deed in 1785. Fifty-four years later in 1873, the church was on the lands of Will Smith.

The present Savannah Church was dedi-

cated in the summer of 1887, this was a frame church, located near Grassey Island and the Bluett Falls Reservoir. A deed was made by Charlie and Thomas Ingram.

Due to the absence of a musical instrument, Mr. Alec Poplin "Pitched the hymn tunes," with a tuning fork. The Poplin Family were of great help to several of the early churches. In 1892, Alberta McCorkle came to the Savannah community as the bride of Mr. Charlie Ingram and began as a movement to purchase a organ for the church. "Miss Bertha" served as organist until Tabitha Maness succeeded her. "Miss Tab," is remembered for planning excellent "Children's Day" programs. She married Mr. Bob Jones and lives in Wadesboro.

A piano was later purchased by a clever apron and waist measuring project. Mr. Hannah Maness Chandler succeeded her sister as painist, her family lived near the all-denomination church Joseph Ingram built in the late 1700's. Mrs. Evelyn Martin is the present painist for Savannah United Methodist Church.

Some of the Sunday School Superintendents have been: Mr. Will Smith, Mr. M.C. Maness served for about thirty years, Mrs. Benjamin Ingram served from 1923 until 1928, Mrs. T. J. (Lillian) Ingram served from 1928 to 1952. Miss Addie Downer served until her health failed. "MISS ADDIE" served as secretary from 1913 until her death in 1967. "MISS LILLIAN" died in 1968 and Mrs. Julia Downer, Savannah's oldest member died in 1971 at the age of one-hundred.

LILESVILLE, church is located in the town of Lilesville. Senior citizens say

the church began as Long's Chapel.

In April 1875 Nelson Liles entailed in his will, land to be sold to trustees, with the provisions; that a church be built within two years after his death, no burials or fences were to be on the property. The frame church was dedicated on May 8, 1876. The church steeple which began at the foundation, making a curved entrance with a door at each side. Mr. Robert Forlaw built the benches and Bible stand. The first musical instrument was a foot pedal organ, played by a one-legged lady, Miss Lucy Liles with the aid of Annie Mae. Liles. Trustees have included: Mastin C. Long, Henry W. Ledbetter, Hugh H. Fladger, Austin Cox, William E. Smith, E.J. Deberry, John Colson, Alfred Dawkins, A.P. Liles, J.L. Ridenhour, C.P. Allen, H. Riley, and Charles M. Byrd.

In 1923, when the highway was being paved from Wadesboro to PEE DEE RIVER, the church was moved North about one-hundred feet, in order that the road could be straightened. The church was remodeled, Sunday Schools rooms added, memorial windows added and the complete structure brick veneered. Dr. Kerr gave a generous contribution for a piano and The Ladies Aid Society completed the project, which replaced the organ. Mrs. Ruth Dabbs DeBerry served a pianist for many years, her family relates back to the beginning of the church.

In 1956 (The Young People) Ruth DeBerry's Sunday School Class bought an electric organ, also in 1954 gave the Chimes. Mrs. Nancy Ingram Landen serves as organist. Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Taylor

gave the first carpeting for the church. In 1958 a Fellowship Hall and Sunday School rooms were added, joining the church with a breezeway. In 1966, Mr. Jim Scarboro gave the funds for remodeling the church.

Lilesville Sunday School Superintendents have been: Dr. Kerr, Henry F. Garriss, R. A. Taylor, Mrs. Bill Liles, Mrs. Willie C. Davis, Mr. Charlie Byrd, Mr. Tom Sellers, Mr. George Sinclair, John Liles, John Ingram, E.V. Quick and Mr. George Meachum now serves as Superintendant of Study.

FORESTVILLE, church is located on old highway 74 near the Anson Water Plant. It began in a schoolhouse. The location of the school was part of an incorporated town, which was owned by Mr. William C. Smith, grandson of Mary and James Smith. He owned a tan yard, a store where there was a post office, a saw mill, and grist mill, called Forestville, for the convenience of the families on his plantation. The store and school was burned. A church was built on the schoolhouse site and a deed was made by Sopthrona and B.F. Clark in 1882 to trustees: Adam Clark, B.F. Clark, S.G. Wall, John Spencer, W.S. Spencer and A.G. Wall.

About 1923, when the highway was being paved from Wadesboro to the Pee Dee River, Forestville church was brick veneered and Sunday School rooms added. In 1953 a fellowship house was given in memory of Mr. J.A. McAlister, former Sunday School Superintendant. In 1961 a new Chancell was added to the church and in 1972, a beautiful new steeple with a cross was added. Mrs. Elizabeth G. Wall is the organist and choir director for a vested choir. Mrs. Wall has served her

church since 1933.

Sunday School Superintendants at Forestville have been: B.F. Clark, J.A. McAlister, Mrs. Hattie Stubbs, Mr. J.L. Ridenhour, Mr. Cottingham, Mr. T. J. Poplin, Mrs. John Spencer, Mrs. O.S. Anderson, Mr. Henry F. Garriss, Mr. Lee Tucker, Mr. Earl Ballard, Mrs. Bruce Taylor, Mrs. J.E. Bacon, Mr. Clyde Davison and Mr. Marvin Clark now serves as Superintendant of Study.

A Missionary, Eula Smith, once worshiped at Forestville, Miss Smith worked in Korea for thirty-four years. Miss Smith's mother was a Sunday School teacher at Forestville in the early 1900's.

The Lilesville Charge is given credit for helping Reverend George Clemer get his start in the ministry.

Mr. Clemer answered the call to to minister in the summer of 1910 at the Lilesville Church, about one month later he was with the pastor C.H. Clyde in services at Savannah Church. A Richardson boy drowned at the ballast pit and the pastor was called back to Lilesville to conduct his funeral and left him in charge of the services at Savannah. That was the first time he conducted a service on his own. He says, "Happily the Lord was with them and there were three conversions." He was at the other churches with Mr. Clyde that summer. Under the leadership of Mr. Clyde, the charge provided a scholarship for him to go to Rutherford College the last part of August that year. In the spring of 1911 he was given a local preachers lic-

ence at the Morganton district conference in the First Church in Morganton. He was at Wadesboro in 1932-35. He retired at the conference 1958, but still preaches from time to time. He writes, "My life has been most interesting, I trust that I have glorified God to some extent in my ministry of more than 70 years. If I have, the good people of the churches in those days deserve much of the credit, for they loved and encouraged me when I took my first feeble steps in the work of the church. They also made it possible for me to start toward acquiring a fairly decent education. Love to all, George B. Clemmer."

#### METHODIST PARSONAGES

The first Methodist parsonage was located on the old Morven road, near the C. D. Davison residence and was burned when Zadoc Parris was pastor.

In 1898, Sallie K. Liles, deeded land to the Lilesville Methodist Charge for a parsonage. Trustees were: F.J. Deberry, E.J. Lilly, W.A. Pratt, J.A. McAlister, B.F. Covington, and T.J. Ingram.

The first parsonage on this lot burned about 1916 and rebuilt, it was used until 1962.

A new brick parsonage was built adjacent to the Lilesville Church in 1962. Rev. and Mrs. Robin Hurley's family was the first family to occupy the new parsonage.

Charge trustees in 1962 were: W.T. Rorie, Jr., John C. Neal, Joel Price, and Mrs. W.M. Liles



MR. AND MRS. W. T. RORIE, SR., AND FAMILY



Smith Family Group

